

A BEGINNERS'
COURSE IN
BIBLE STUDY

SECOND YEAR



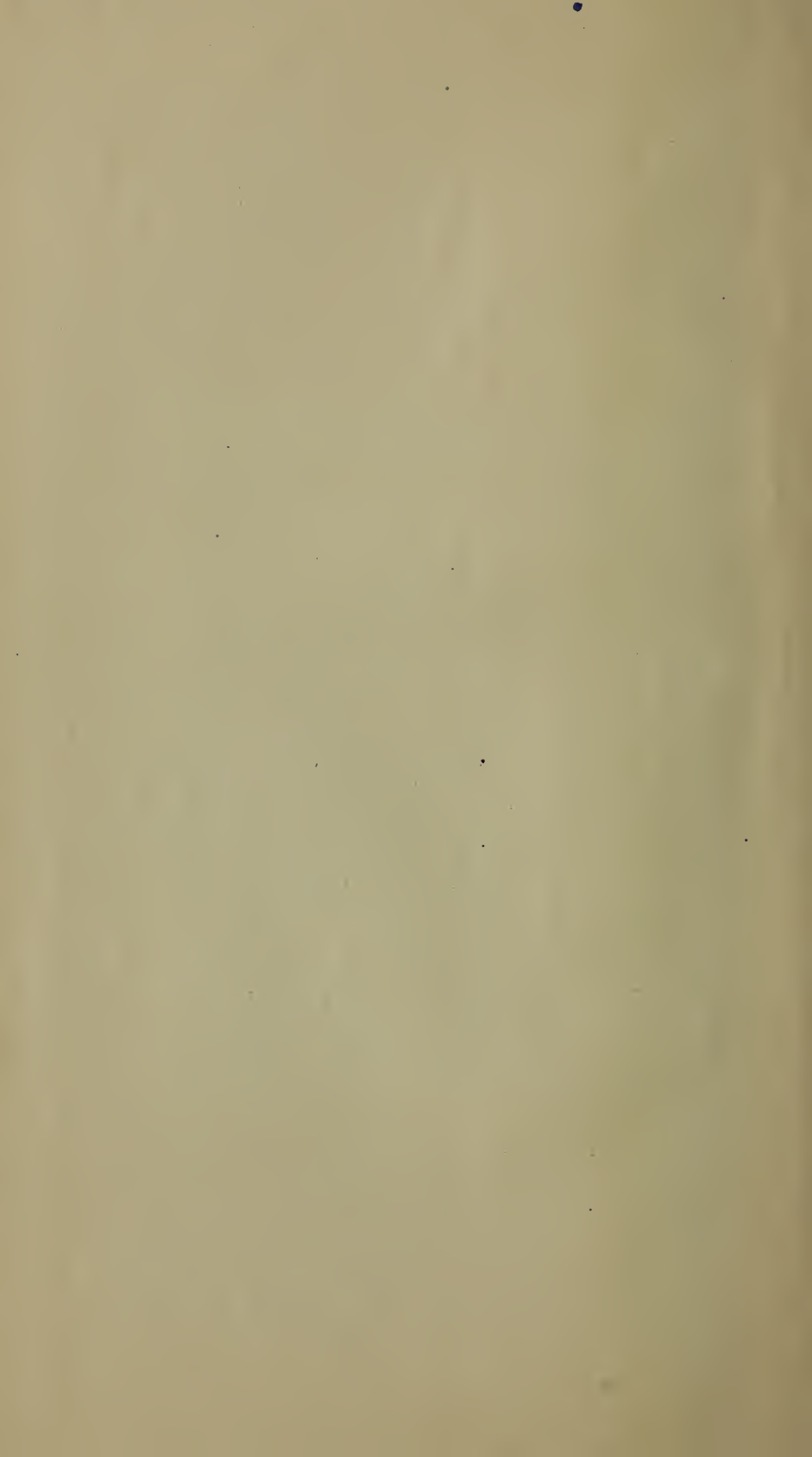
Class BS605

Book .I6

Copyright N^o

COPYRIGHT DEPOSIT.





A P R I M A R Y P A G E I N THE SUNDAY SCHOOL TIMES FOR FOUNDATION - BUILDERS

WHEN we look for Sunday-school life and progress, co-operation, and alert, aggressive, new-century methods, we instinctively turn to the primary teachers of our land. They are in the van of the Sunday-school army. What a cause for thanksgiving this is! No other department of the school is more important, and no other department is more interesting. A full page of The Sunday School Times once a month is devoted to the primary teacher and her work, *in addition*, of course, to the splendid primary lesson treatment furnished every week in its columns from the master hand and loving heart of Mrs. Mary Foster Bryner. On this page Mrs. J. W. Barnes, International Primary Secretary, conducts a Question Box Column. Primary "Ways of Working," telling of the thousand-and-one bright ideas that are being thought out and wrought out by earnest teachers in small schools and large; hints for primary unions, those local centers of inspiration and unity; special articles from primary experts on matters of living interest to all who would keep pace with the newest and best; and—perhaps most interesting of all—true incidents of the work, combine to make this page unique in its interest and value to the teachers of the little ones. Questions from the readers on all phases of primary work, problems, and difficulties, are answered by acknowledged experts. If you want light on any problem that may be now confronting you, primary teachers, write at once to The Sunday School Times about it, and helpful suggestions will be given you, either in the paper or by letter.

The Sunday School Times is issued every week, and contains a wealth of general Sunday-school information and practical suggestions. It costs a little more than any other Sunday-school periodical, and is worth more than it costs. \$1.00 a year; 75 cents a year, for each subscription in a club of five or more, to separate addresses or in a package to one address.

A BEGINNERS' COURSE IN BIBLE STUDY

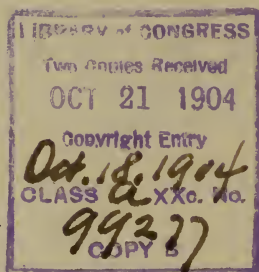
ISSUED BY THE AMERICAN SECTION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL
LESSON COMMITTEE, FOR
PUPILS UNDER SIX YEARS OF AGE

TEACHING HINTS BY
GEORGE HAMILTON ARCHIBALD

Published by

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL TIMES CO.
1031 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

BS605
I6



Copyright, 1904,
by
THE SUNDAY SCHOOL TIMES CO.



NOTE CAREFULLY

THE new two-year Beginners' Course which is given in full on the following seven pages, and the second year of which is taught by Mr. Archibald in this book, is a NEW course, and is not a continuation of the one-year course which appeared in 1901. Some teachers have mistakenly supposed that a class which has used the course of 1901 is therefore ready for the second year of this new two-year course. This is not so. It is true that some of the lesson material of the former course appears in the first year of the new course, but the plan and material of the new course, taken as a whole, are so different from that of the old, that the advice of Mrs. J. W. Barnes, International Primary Secretary, on this point is : "*Begin with the first year of the new course.*"



Lessons and Golden Texts

(For scholars under six years of age.)

Issued under the authority of the American Section of the International Lesson Committee, and, in accordance with instructions from the Denver Triennial Convention of 1902, marked "Optional."

The course is arranged to begin with September, and work towards Thanksgiving and Christmas. It may, however, be begun at any time by the teacher, care being exercised to commence at the lesson corresponding with the month in which the individual teacher begins.

In most cases the Golden Texts have been taken from the Revised Version. But in one or two cases, where the Authorized Version was simpler, and the meaning the same as that of the Revised, the former has been retained.

A. F. SCHAUFFLER, Secretary,

105 East 22d Street, New York City.

First Year

Theme: God the Creator.

Golden Text: All things were made by him (John 1 : 3).

1. God Making Trees and Flowers (Gen. 1 : 9-13).
2. God Making Animals (Gen. 1 : 20-25).
3. God Making All Things (Gen. 1 : 1-8, 14-19).

Theme: Home Life.

Golden Text: Lord, thou art our father (Isa. 64 : 8).

4. The First Family (Gen. 1 : 26-31 ; 3 : 20 ; 4 : 1, 2).
5. The First Home (Gen. 2 : 4-10, 15-17).

Theme: God's Loving Care.

Golden Text: He careth for you (1 Pet. 5 : 7).

6. God Caring for Birds and Flowers (Matt. 6 : 26-34).
7. God Caring for Baby Moses (Exod. 2 : 1-10).

8. God Caring for Elijah (1 Kings 17 : 1-6).
9. God Caring for Many People (Exod. 16 : 11-13, 31-35).

Theme : Giving Thanks to God.

Golden Text : O give thanks unto the Lord ; for he is good
(Psa. 106 : 1).

10. Daniel Thanking God (Dan. 2 : 17-24).
11. The Israelites Thanking God (Exod. 14 : 9, 10, 21-31;
Exod. 15 : 1-21).
12. Thanking God for All Things (Psa. 103 : 1-5;
104 : 10-24).
13. Thanking God in Heaven (Rev. 7 : 9-17).

Theme : Giving.

Golden Text : God loveth a cheerful giver (2 Cor. 9 : 7).

14. A Poor Woman's Gift (Mark 12 : 41-44).
15. Giving to the Needy (Neh. 8 : 1-12).
16. The Israelites Giving to God (Exod. 35 : 20-29).

Golden Text : He loved us, and sent his Son (1 John 4 : 10).

17. God's Gift of His Son (Luke 2 : 1-20).
18. The Wise Men's Gifts (Matt. 2 : 1-11).

Theme : The Boy Jesus.

Golden Text : His name was called Jesus (Luke 2 : 21).

19. Jesus Being Named (Luke 2 : 21-39).
20. Jesus in His Home (Luke 2 : 39, 40, 51, 52).

Golden Text : Let us go unto the house of the Lord (Psa.
122 : 1).

21. Jesus Going to the House of God (Luke 2 : 41-49).

Theme : The Man Jesus.

Golden Text : He took them in his arms, and blessed them
(Mark 10 : 16).

22. Jesus' Love for Children (Matt. 19 : 13-15 ; Mark 10 :
13-16).

Golden Text : I will sing unto the Lord (Exod. 15 : 1).

23. Children Praising Jesus (Matt. 21 : 6-17).

Golden Text : Who went about doing good (Acts 10 : 38.)

24. Jesus Feeding the Hungry (Mark 6 : 30-44 ; John
6 : 1-14).

- 25. Jesus and the Storm (Mark 4 : 35-41 ; Matt. 8 : 23-27).
- 26. Jesus Curing a Sick Boy (John 4 : 46-54).
- 27. Jesus and Jairus' Daughter (Mark 5 : 21-24, 35-43).

Theme : Resurrection Lessons.

Golden Text : We shall all be changed (1 Cor. 15 : 51).

- 28. The Flowers Blooming Again. (Song of Solomon 2 : 11-13 ; Luke 12 : 27).

Golden Text : Christ died, and lived again (Rom. 14 : 9).

- 29. Jesus Dying and Living Again (Matt. 28 : 1-10).

Golden Text : I go to prepare a place for you (John 14 : 2).

- 30. Jesus Returns to Heaven (Acts 1 : 9-11).
- 31. Our Heavenly Home (John 14 : 1-3 ; Rev. 22 : 1-5).

Theme : Reverence.

Golden Text : The Lord our God is holy (Psa. 99 : 9).

- 32. Reverence for God's Name (Exod. 20 : 7 ; 1 Kings 8 : 41-43 ; Psa. 113 : 1-5).
- 33. Reverence for God's House (Exod. 3 : 1-6 ; 40 : 34-38 ; Psa. 122 : 1 ; Eccl. 5 : 1, 2).

Golden Text : Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy (Exod. 20 : 8).

- 34. Reverence for God's Day (Neh. 13 : 15-22 ; Gen. 2 : 2, 3 ; Exod. 20 : 8-11 ; Isa. 56 : 2-7).

Golden Text : I will not forget thy word (Psa. 119 : 16).

- 35. Reverence for God's Word (2 Chron. 34 : 1-6, 14-18, 29-33).

Theme : Obedience.

Golden Text : Children, obey your parents (Eph. 6 : 1).

- 36. Joseph Obeying His Father (Gen. 37 : 13-17).

Golden Text : I will help thee (Isa. 41 : 10).

- 37. Fishermen Obeying Jesus (Luke 5 : 1-11).
- 38. Noah Obeying God (Gen. 7 : 12-24 ; Gen. 8 : 1-22 ; Gen. 9 : 13).
- 39. God will Help Us to Obey Him (Dan. 1 : 1-21).

Theme : Repentance.

Golden Text : I will be sorry for my sin (Psa. 38 : 18).

40. Peter's Sorrow for Sin (Luke 22 : 54-62 ; John 21 : 15-17).
41. Turning Away from Sin (Luke 19 : 1-10).

Theme : Forgiveness.

Golden Text : Ready to forgive (Psa. 86 : 5).

42. Joseph Forgiving His Brothers (Gen. 37 : 23-28 ; 45 : 1-15).
43. A Father's Forgiveness (Luke 15 : 11-24).

Theme : Prayer.

Golden Text : My God will hear me (Micah 7 : 7).

44. Hezekiah's Prayer for Help, Granted (2 Kings 20 : 1-7).
45. David's Prayer for His Child, Denied (2 Sam. 12 : 15-23).
46. Elisha's Prayer for a Child, Granted (2 Kings 4 : 8-37).
47. Jesus Praying (Luke 3 : 21, 22 ; Mark 1 : 35 ; Mark 14 : 26-42).

Theme : Kindness.

Golden Text : Be ye kind one to another (Eph. 4 : 32).

48. Rebekah's Kindness (Gen. 24 : 10-20, 29-31).
49. The Boy and the Lamb (1 Sam. 17 : 32-38).
50. David's Kindness to a Lame Boy (2 Sam. 9 : 1-13).
51. Elisha's Kindness to a Poor Woman (2 Kings 4 : 1-7).
52. The Good Samaritan (Luke 10 : 30-37).

Second Year

Theme : Happy Home Life.

Golden Text : Honour thy father and thy mother (Exod. 20 : 12).

1. Miriam Ready to Help (Exod. 2 : 1-10).
2. Respect for Parents (Jer. 35 : 10 ; Eph. 6 : 1-4).

Golden Text : Blessed are the peacemakers (Matt. 5 : 9).

3. Jonathan the Peacemaker (1 Sam. 19 : 1-7 ; 1 Thess. 5 : 13).

Golden Text : Preferring one another (Rom. 12 : 10).

4. Kindness to Guests (2 Kings 4 : 8-13 ; Heb. 13 : 2).

Theme : Unselfishness.

Golden Text : Christ also pleased not himself (Rom. 15 : 3)

5. Abraham and Lot (Gen. 13 : 1-9).
6. Ruth and Naomi (Ruth 1 : 1-22).

Theme : God's Goodness.

Golden Text : God shall supply every need of yours (Phil. 4 : 19).

7. God's Care for Ishmael (Gen. 21 : 12-20).
8. God's Care for Elijah (1 Kings 17 : 8-16).
9. God's Care for Daniel (Dan. 6 : 1-23).
10. God's Care for Peter (Acts 12 : 1-17).
11. God's Care for Us (Psa. 23 : 1-6).
12. God's Care for All Things (Matt. 6 : 25-30).

Theme : Gratitude.

Golden Text : Be ye thankful (Col. 3 : 15).

13. A Man Thanking Jesus (Luke 17 : 11-19).
14. A Lame Man Thanking God (Acts 3 : 1-10).

Theme : Helpfulness.

Golden Text : Let us do good unto all (Gal. 6 : 10).

15. A Little Girl Helping Her Master (2 Kings 5 : 1-5, 9-14).
16. Samuel Helping in the House of God (1 Sam. 3 : 1-10).
17. Friends Helping a Sick Man (Mark 2 : 1-12).
18. A Little Boy Helping Jesus (John 6 : 5-14).

Golden Text : For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son (John 3 : 16).

19. God Helping Us by the Gift of His Son (Matt. 1 : 21 ; Luke 2 : 1-20 ; 1 Tim. 1 : 15).

Theme : Jesus Our Helper.

Golden Text : Lord, be thou my helper (Psa. 30 : 10).

20. Jesus Helping the Fishermen (John 21 : 2-13).
21. Jesus Feeding Four Thousand Men (Matt. 15 : 32-39 ; Mark 8 : 1-9).
22. Jesus Healing a Leper (Matt. 8 : 1-4 ; Mark 1 : 40-45).

Golden Text : My help cometh from the Lord (Psa. 121 : 2).

23. Jesus Healing a Blind Man (John 9 : 1-41).

24. Jesus Raising the Widow's Son (Luke 7 : 11-17).

Theme : Jesus Our Teacher.

Golden Text : Teach me thy way, O Lord (Psa. 27 : 11).

25. Jesus' Example of Service (John 13 : 1-15).

26. Jesus' Story of a Supper (Luke 14 : 16-24).

27. Jesus' Story of the Lost Sheep (Luke 15 : 3-7).

28. Jesus' Story of the Seed (Matt. 13 : 3-8).

Theme : The Risen and Ascended Lord.

Golden Text : Behold, I make all things new (Rev. 21 : 5).

29. New Life in Nature (Gen. 1 : 12 ; Song of Solomon

7 : 11-13 ; Psa. 65 : 9 ; Psa. 74 : 16, 17 ; Psa. 104 :

14-17 ; Psa. 147 : 16-18).

Golden Text : He is Risen (Matt. 28 : 6).

30. Jesus' New Life (Luke 24 : 1-9).

Golden Text : In my Father's house are many mansions
(John 14 : 2).

31. Jesus Going Back to Heaven (Luke 24 : 36-53).

32. Our New Life (Rev. 21 : 1-4, 21-27).

Theme : Jesus' Nearness to Us.

Golden Text : I am with you alway (Matt. 28 : 20).

33. Jesus' Promise of Nearness (John 14 : 18-23 ; 16 :
16-22 ; Matt. 28 : 20).

34. Jesus' Nearness to Paul (Acts 18 : 1-11 ; 2 Tim. 4 :
16-18).

Theme : Obedience.

Golden Text : We must obey God (Acts 5 : 29).

35. Gideon and the Three Hundred (Judges 7 : 12-21).

36. Peter and John Obeying God (Acts 5 : 17-32).

Theme : Honesty.

Golden Text : Let us walk honestly (Rom. 13 : 13).

37. The Honest Workmen (2 Chron. 24 : 4, 8-14 ; 2 Kings
12 : 11-15).

38. The Dishonest Servant (2 Kings 5 : 20-27).

39. The Honest Treasurers (Ezra 8 : 21-34).

Theme : Truthfulness.

Golden Text : My mouth shall speak truth (Prov. 8 : 7).

- 40. Samuel Telling the Truth (1 Sam. 3 : 1-21).
- 41. Daniel Telling the Truth (Dan. 5 : 13-30).
- 42. Truthful at All Times (John 1 : 43-51 ; Eph. 4 : 25 ;
Psa. 15 : 1, 2).

Theme : Self-Control.

Golden Text : Be patient toward all (1 Thess. 5 : 14).

- 43. David's Self-Control (1 Sam. 26 : 1-25).
- 44. Jesus Bearing Wrong (Luke 9 : 51-56).

Theme : Prayer.

Golden Text : Lord, teach us to pray (Luke 11 : 1).

- 45. Praying for Help (Neh. 1 : 1-11).
- 46. Praying for Others (1 Sam. 12 : 19-24 ; Matt. 5 : 44 ;
James 5 : 13-16).
- 47. When and Where to Pray (Matt. 6 : 6 ; Dan. 6 : 10 ;
Acts 3 : 1 ; Gen. 24 : 10-14 ; Neh. 2 : 4 ; James 5 : 13 ;
Matt. 8 : 23-46).

Theme : Forgiveness.

Golden Text : Forgiving each other (Eph. 4 : 32).

- 48. Stephen Forgiving His Enemies (Acts 7 : 54-60).
- 49. Jesus Forgiving Peter (John 18 : 15-18, 25-27 ; John
21 : 15-17).

Theme : Love.

Golden Text : Let us love one another, for love is of God
(1 John 4 : 7).

- 50. Jonathan's Love for David (1 Sam. 18 : 1-4 ; 20 : 1-42).
- 51. Mary's Love for Jesus (John 12 : 1-8 ; Mark 14 : 3-9).
- 52. Jesus' Love for His Friends (John 11 : 1-44).

INTRODUCTION TO SECOND YEAR

THE teaching hints given in this book have been prepared in the hope that they will be found helpful to the teachers and mothers of very little people.

It is presumed that the teachers who take up this second year's course are acquainted with, and possibly have used, that of the first year.

Much of the success in teaching these lessons to little people will depend upon the teacher's ability to tell a story. In these stories the child's affection and sympathy have been appealed to, rather than his intellect.

The teacher should study each story well in order to get a clear picture of it as a whole ; otherwise the child will fail to see it clearly. She should become thoroughly acquainted with the detail, and aim to make much of the action. She should rehearse the story until she is quite sure of it.

To carry out all the suggestions made in the following lessons, the superintendent of the department will have to be supplied with a sand-tray, some blocks, some small blackboards, paper pads or slates.

A SAND-TRAY can be easily and cheaply prepared as follows : Make the tray of wood. For a small tray, thirty-six by twenty-two inches is a good size. Have it about three inches deep. Paint the bottom surface blue, and if you care to have it a little more elaborate, cover the blue painted surface with glass. This keeps

it cleaner and makes the handling of the sand easier. Get from some foundry enough sand to nearly fill the tray. Molders' brown sand that has not been used is the best. Sea sand is rather too loose, and will not adhere well. The sand should be sprinkled with water from week to week and kept damp.

BLOCKS. The best blocks are those commonly used in the kindergarten, but if these are too expensive, the teacher will find plenty in the waste of any carpenter or cabinet shop. These will answer every purpose almost as well, and probably cost nothing.

BLACKBOARDS. Possibly blackboards can be put up about the room for the children to use in giving expression to the lesson story. Failing these, small blackboards or paper pads and pencils can be supplied to the children. The small blackboards can be bought cheaply almost anywhere, and nothing will be found more helpful in impressing the lesson story than their use in the manner suggested.

MEMORY VERSES have been suggested for each theme. These verses are not meant to point the moral of the story, but are to be used as memory gems. They can be sung to music, repeated by the class together, or used in any manner that the teacher thinks best. Only one selection for each theme has been supplied, as there will probably not be time to teach the children more. The teacher should not feel that because these verses have been suggested, it is necessary to use them. There may be cases where it would be as well to omit the verses altogether.

PHYSICAL EXERCISES. If the children are restless, the teacher will do well to allow them to march and

thoroughly exercise before they settle down for the lesson story. The following will make a good physical drill: All stand up together. All sit down together. Stand up again. Place hands on hips. Hands on shoulders. Hands on heads. Hands at sides. Open and shut hands quickly. Bend arms at elbows. Raise arms above head, palms open to the front. Rise on tiptoes and reach as high as possible. Turn neck and head. Bend head backward and forward. Touch floor with fingers. Raise feet knee high, alternately, etc. (Repeat each movement several times.)

PICTURES. Most of the pictures suggested for these lessons can be purchased from the Perry Pictures Company, Malden, Mass.; The W. A. Wilde Company, Boylston Street, Boston, or G. P. Brown, Beverly, Mass. In England they can be secured from H. H. Pinkney, 10 Avondale Road, Croyden.

Some simple suggestions for the blackboard have been made, but only in cases where it is thought the outlines may help to stimulate the imagination of the child. If the teacher uses the pictures, she will probably not need to use the blackboard outlines at all. The sketches are very simply made, but that the inexperienced teacher may understand their meaning, we have given a short description with lesson number one. The other sketches may be made in much the same manner.

HAPPY HOME LIFE

Golden Text for Lessons 1 and 2 : Honor thy father and thy mother (Exod. 20 : 12).

Lesson 1

Miriam Ready to Help (Exod. 2 : 1-10).

Result Sought :

A spirit of helpfulness.

Suggestion to Teachers :

Be sure and read the Introduction to the second year series on pages xi to xiii.

If the nervous energy of the children has not been sufficiently thrown off by the marching and other movements of the opening exercises, be sure to give them some definite physical exercise immediately preceding the telling of the story, so that they will be quite ready to sit and listen.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

How many have a baby at home? How big is he? What color are his eyes and his hair? What does he do when you play with him? How do you hold him?

2. LESSON STORY.

I am going to tell you how a girl named Miriam took care of her baby brother. The baby's name

was Moses and his mother was Jochebed. Little Moses was only three months old, but ever since he came to them they had had to hide him. I will tell you why.

In the land where Jochebed and Miriam and Moses lived, there was a wicked king. He was so wicked that he wanted to kill all Hebrew boy babies. So Jochebed and Miriam were afraid that the soldiers would come and take away their dear little boy. Whenever they heard that the soldiers were near they would hush him to sleep and keep him out of sight. But when he was three months old and was growing very fast, they could not keep him hidden in the house any longer, and they were troubled about what they should do with him.

"We will have to find some way," said the mother to Miriam. "What shall we do?" They thought a while, and Jochebed said to Miriam: "Go and bring me some of the rushes from the river bank." When Miriam brought the heavy green rushes that grew at the edge of the water, they began to weave them together until they had made a little cradle-boat. Then they painted it and filled up the cracks so that not a drop of water could get in. They lined it with soft red cloth, and put in a little pillow. It was just the right size and he soon got used to his queer little cradle-boat. The next morning they took him to the river and placed the boat in the water, hiding it among the rushes.

Moses' mother and Miriam knew that every day the beautiful princess who lived in the palace came down to the river to bathe. They knew that the

princess loved little children, and thought that perhaps she might see the baby boy in the cradle and take care of him. When they saw that the boat was quite safe they moved away. The mother turned back home, but Miriam hid where she could watch for the princess.

Presently she saw her coming. Some friends came with her to bathe in the river. Her dark-skinned slaves and maidens followed behind. The princess and her friends were all laughing and singing so they did not notice Miriam behind the trees as they passed by. But going near the river, they saw the strange-looking cradle, and the princess cried : "What is this ?" One of her slaves ran down and drew the little boat to the shore. Then the princess stooped and picking the baby up, she folded him in her arms and hushed him, for he was crying.

Miriam watched from her hiding-place. "I wonder what they will do with him!" she thought. And when she saw the princess speaking kindly to the baby and the others crowding about, she listened and heard the princess say : "This is one of the Hebrew children." The baby was still crying, so Miriam left her hiding-place and, approaching the princess, bowed herself low down to the ground and cried : "Shall I run and call a nurse from among the Hebrew women, that she may take care of the child for thee ?" The beautiful princess thought a minute. She knew that the king had commanded that all such children should be put to death. But as she looked into the black eyes of the baby boy, she turned to Miriam and said : "Yes, go and bring me

a nurse." Miriam gladly ran to her mother and cried to her: "Come, mother; the princess wants thee!"

When Jochebed came, the princess said to her: "Take this child away and nurse it for me, and I will give thee thy wages." Then she gave the baby boy to his mother and the little fellow cuddled closely to her bosom and quickly stopped his crying. I think the princess must have known that it was the baby's mother.

I am sure Miriam must have clapped her hands for joy as they carried the baby back home. After that, they did not need to hide the little fellow any more, and every little while Miriam would take him to see the princess, and then bring him back again.

This is the way Miriam helped her mother.

3. TRANSITION.

What was the name of the baby boy? What was his sister's name? Why did they hide the baby? What did they make to put him in? How did they make it? Where did they hide him? Who found the baby? How did she come to find him? What became of the baby? How did Miriam help?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

The Sand-tray. When the children have given back to the teacher the story of Miriam and her baby brother, she can draw forward the sand-tray, loosely piled with newly damped sand. The children can then assist her in forming with the sand a small por-

tion of the river and its banks. She should have a tiny paper boat, some green rushes, grass, or something else that will represent the bulrushes. These the children can help her to plant upon the banks and in the river-bed. During this occupation the teacher should allow the children to talk freely about the story and so give expression to their ideas.

Physical. If the teacher has no sand-tray, or if there is time for both, she can have the children imitate some of the physical activities of Miriam. For example : caring for the baby in the home, rocking him to sleep, gathering the bulrushes, weaving the cradle, placing the baby in the water, watching from her hiding-place, clapping her hands for joy that the baby is safe, carrying the baby to visit the princess, etc , etc.

Picture

The Finding of Moses, by Delaroche.

Blackboard



Sketch the hills, the river, and the palace in which the princess lived. Put in the rushes and a few palm-trees. Represent the princess and her companions coming toward the river and Miriam and Jochebed by strokes.

Memory Gem

This is the mother, so busy at home,
Who loves her dear children, whatever may come.

This is the father, so brave and strong,
Who works for his family all the day long.

This is the brother, who'll soon be a man ;
He helps his good mother as much as he can.

This is the sister, so gentle and mild,
Who plays that the dolly is her little child.

This is the baby, all dimpled and sweet,
How soft his wee hands and his chubby, pink feet !

Father, and mother, and children so dear,
Together you see them, one family here.

Lesson 2

Respect for Parents (Jer. 35 : 10 ; Eph. 6 : 1-4).

Golden Text : Honor thy father and thy mother
(Exod. 20 : 12).

Result Sought :

Respect for parents shown by loving deeds.

Suggestions to Teachers :

It is a matter of great regret that the material for one of the first lessons for the second year should

be so unfortunately chosen. The story is quite outside the little child's plane of experience. Moreover, the lesson intended to be taught from the context is unnatural and forced. We desire to follow out as nearly as possible the course outlined by the Committee, but in this case we think there is only one course to take—to omit it altogether.

One of the best sources of lesson material for the teaching of little children is nature, and nature stories are often found the most helpful. From this source we have chosen the substituted lesson story for the day.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

How many persons live in your home? How many brothers have you? How many sisters? Who else lives in your home?

Continue in this way a short conversation about the members of the family, and so lead up to the following story of "Father Time and his Children."

2. LESSON STORY.

There once lived an old man whose name was Time, and he had four children, two boys and two girls. The boys' names were Winter and Autumn, and the girls' names were Spring and Summer.

Now, Father Time was very fond of his boys and girls, and he was always doing something to make them happy, but he believed that it was best for children to have some work to do, and not to play all the time. So he told Winter, who was the oldest,

that he should expect him to look after the snow and the ice, North Wind and Jack Frost.

Winter was delighted with his work, for he was very fond of the snow, and North Wind and Jack Frost were particular friends of his, and many a merry time these three had together after their work was done. One of the things that they loved very much to do was to freeze over the rivers and ponds, so that the boys and girls might have skating.

Summer, Winter's eldest sister, had a great deal to do, for she had all of the flowers and vegetables to care for, but it was a pleasure for her to take care of the flowers, because she loved them so much. She would coax the sun to shine warmly and the rain to fall softly upon them. Then the little flowers would lift their heads, and when the morning breeze passed them by they would give him their very sweetest perfume, which was their way of saying thank you.

Spring was the little baby sister, and every one loved her very much, because she was always so happy and glad.

One day Father Time told Spring that she might take care of the little seeds that were lying fast asleep in the ground, and the buds on the trees. Then Spring was happy indeed, because she had been afraid that perhaps Father Time might think she wasn't old enough to do any work, and she wanted very much to help. So she made up her mind to do the very best she could; and she sent the April showers to awaken the little seeds, and then she sent the sunbeams to help them come to the light; and

the sunbeams and the showers helped the buds to blossom. So when the trees were all in bloom, every one said that Springtime was the most beautiful time of the whole year.

Autumntime, the youngest brother, was a very busy little fellow. He was very fond of bright colors, and sometimes wore a scarlet and yellow jacket. His work was to help the grains, the fruit, and the nuts to ripen. Now Autumn knew that this work was very important, and that the farmers depended on him for their harvests ; so he said to himself: "I'll do the best I can, and I'll get the sun to help me." The sun was glad to help Autumn and they worked very hard together ; so that when the harvest time was over, and the farmers had filled their barns with the grain and fruit, they found that they had enough to last them until Autumn came again.

Father Time was very much pleased with his children's work. They all did so well that he never could tell which one did best.

—*Mary Helen Power.*

3. TRANSITION.

What were the names of Father Time's children ?
What work did he give Winter to do ?

With such questions as these the teacher can get back from the children the principal thoughts contained in the story, and so lead up to the

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Physical. Yes, Winter had to take care of the snow and the ice, North Wind and Jack Frost. I wonder if one of our boys would like to be Winter

and choose a North Wind and a Jack Frost. Perhaps some of us can make believe we are ponds and Winter will send Jack Frost to turn us into ice. Perhaps North Wind will blow very hard and help him, and Winter might make the rest of us snowflakes and send us whirling around and fluttering to the ground. Now, when we know quite well what Winter has to do, we can be children once more.

The teacher can then choose a little girl to be Summer, others to be flowers, one to be the sun, some to be raindrops. The raindrops can come and water the flowers, the flowers can grow up and lift their heads, etc., etc. In the same way the teacher can lead the children to express Spring and Autumn. Try to make clear all through that the children of Father Time were glad and willing to do this service.

Lesson 3

Jonathan the Peacemaker (1 Sam. 19 : 1-7 ;
1 Thess. 5 : 13).

Golden Text : Blessed are the peacemakers (Matt.
5 : 9).

Result Sought :

Development of a peacemaking spirit.

Lesson Taught :

I. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Begin the lesson by a talk with the children about their friends. Who are some of your little friends ? When do you play with them ? What do you play ?

2 LESSON STORY.

Our story to-day is about three friends, a king, a prince, and a shepherd boy. The king's name was Saul, and he and the prince, his son, who was called Jonathan, lived together in a beautiful big palace.

One time a great army of men, armed with swords and spears, and bows and arrows, came to fight against King Saul and all his people. One of these soldiers was a great giant named Goliath, and there was no one brave enough to fight him, until one day the shepherd boy came from the country where he had been taking care of his sheep. He was a great, tall lad with ruddy cheeks and fair curling hair.

When he killed the great giant with nothing but a tiny stone in a shepherd's sling, the king sent for him. At first he did not know him, but he soon remembered him to be the lad David who had lived at the castle before he went back home to be a shepherd boy, and used to amuse him by softly playing sweet tunes upon his harp. The king was pleased, and took the brave shepherd boy again to the castle, to live with him and Jonathan the prince. David had not forgotten, and now, whenever the king felt tired or ill, he spent long hours playing tunes and singing songs of every kind.

David and Jonathan the prince became great friends. Sometimes they took their bows and arrows and went out all day long shooting together. At other times they took their swords and spears and went out to fight the strange soldiers who still bothered the people.

At last Prince Jonathan and David grew to love one another so well that they promised to be friends all their lives long. So they were all very happy, until one time David did something which made the king angry, and there was a quarrel. Then Prince Jonathan was very sorrowful. He sought David and said: 'My friend, thou canst not stay here. Go and hide in the field, for the king my father is angry and may kill thee.' David thanked Jonathan and fled to hide.

The next morning when the king was walking out of doors with bent head and a frowning face, Jonathan joined him and said: "My father, why art thou angry with my friend David? He doth not wish to harm thee. He hath always helped us fight the enemies. Dost thou forget how he slew the giant Goliath? Dost thou forget the sweet tunes that he hath played to thee? I pray thee, put away thine anger." As the king listened, the frown began to leave his face, and at last he said to the prince: "Yes, I was wrong to be angry with David. I will not kill him."

Then Jonathan hurried to the place where David was hidden and told him the good news, and they returned together to the king. Thus Jonathan made peace and the king and the shepherd boy were friends once more.

3. TRANSITION.

What was the name of the king? What was his son's name? Who came to live in the palace with them? What happened one day to make everybody very unhappy? How did it all end? Who made peace between David and the king?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Give the children each a small blackboard and a piece of chalk, or if these are unobtainable, give them pieces of white cardboard or paper, and lead-pencils. Tell them that they may draw the things that they have heard about in the story just told. Give them five or ten minutes in which to do this. In this exercise allow the children to have perfect freedom. Do not direct them in any way. If the teacher cares to carry home the drawings thus made, she will not only find them very amusing, but will probably get a new insight into the individual character of each child and learn how perfectly or imperfectly the child has interpreted her teaching.

Picture

David Playing before Saul, by Schopin.

Lesson 4

Kindness to Guests (2 Kings 4 : 8-13 ; Heb. 13 : 2).

Golden Text: Preferring one another (Rom. 12 : 10).

Result Sought :

A spirit of kindness.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Prepare for the lesson by a talk with the children about playing visiting, or tea-party, or something of the kind. By questioning bring out the fact that special preparations are made when visitors are

expected, and that the best we have we give to our friends.

2. LESSON STORY.

Our story to-day is about a woman who had a beautiful house and who entertained a visitor.

This good woman lived in a place called Shunem. One day there came to her town a man named Elisha. He did not wear fine clothes; he looked poor and even hungry, but she knew that he was a good man and went about doing kind things for people. We would have called him a minister; she called him a prophet. When this good woman saw Elisha, she sent to him this message: "Wilt thou not come in and eat bread with us?" Elisha thanked her and went into the fine home and, laying aside his cloak and staff, sat down to eat with her and her husband. When he was going away, the good woman said to him: "Come and visit us again. We will make thee very welcome here."

After this Elisha had to go to Shunem very often. Sometimes he took his young servant Gehazi with him, and each time that he passed he went in to see the good woman and her husband. So they soon became fast friends.

One day the woman said to her husband: "Husband, we must have a place where our visitor Elisha can sleep, so that when he comes to visit us he can stay all night and rest. He is a great and good man. We must make a room for him." So they sent for the workmen, and on top of the house they built a beautiful little room where Elisha could stay. When

it was all finished they put in one corner a bed, in the middle a table, and on the table a little candlestick with a candle to give Elisha light at night-time. There was a little stool, too, over by the window. The next time Elisha came to visit, he found this lovely little room waiting for him. That day he was tired and was glad to have such a nice place to rest. He thought to himself: "How kind this good woman is to me. I wonder how I can show her how grateful I am." Then he told Gehazi, his servant: "Call the good woman of this house; I wish to speak with her." When she came to him, he said: "Thou hast been very kind to me. Thou hast built me this beautiful room and put into it the bed and the table and the stool and the candlestick. Tell me, I pray thee, what I can do for thee to show thee how grateful I am. Shall I speak to the king or to the captain of the soldiers, that they may do some great thing for thee?" But the woman said: "I thank my lord, but I need nothing," and went away. When she had gone Elisha said to Gehazi: "What can we do? She hath all that she needeth." Then Gehazi said: "Verily, although she hath so many beautiful things, she hath no little child." Elisha said: "Go, call her again." The good woman stood before him and he said to her: "I will ask the heavenly Father to send thee a baby boy." And sure enough, God heard the good man's prayer and sent into her home for her very own a beautiful baby boy.

3. TRANSITION.

Who did the good woman of Shunem invite to her

house one day? How often did Elisha visit her after that? How did she show him that she liked to have him come often to see her? How did Elisha thank her for her kindness?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

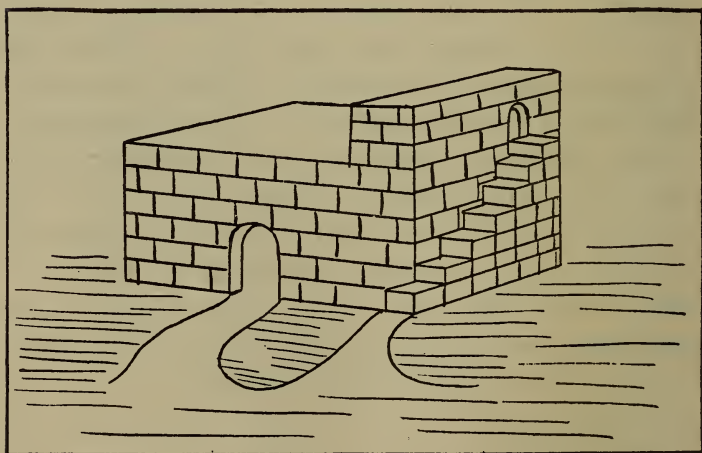
Blocks. Give each of the children some blocks. Let them each build under your direction a very simple little house, the house of the good woman of Shunem. When it is quite finished, let them add the little room on top for Elisha.

Drawing. If it is difficult to obtain blocks for building, let the children draw, either on the little blackboards or paper, their own ideas of the story.

Picture

Elisha Going to His Room.

Blackboard



UNSELFISHNESS

Golden Text for Lessons 5 and 6: Christ also pleased not himself (Rom. 15:3).

Lesson 5

Abraham and Lot (Gen. 13:1-9).

Result Sought :

Unselfish actions.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

How many have ever seen a flock of sheep? Where did you see it? What is the man called who takes care of sheep? How many ever saw a shepherd?

2. LESSON STORY.

Once upon a time there were two shepherds traveling together. One was named Abraham, the other, Lot. Abraham was an old man with a long white beard. Lot was Abraham's nephew and was younger. These two were good friends and they had traveled a long way together. They had with them not only their wives and sons and daughters, but also all of their sheep, and the servants and dogs who looked after the sheep. Such a lot of them there were! They made such a long procession that it was hard to see the end of it.

At last they came to a stopping-place and pitched their tents. There were a great many tents, about a hundred, I should think. Here they meant to live for a good while. But when summer came and the weather got very warm, the grass and water for the sheep became very scarce. Sometimes Abraham's sheep had to be taken for water to the same well with Lot's sheep, and at such times the sheep often got mixed up, and the servants did not know which sheep belonged to Abraham and which to Lot. Then they began to quarrel and fight. Sometimes, too, they quarreled about the pastures where the sheep got the grass.

All this made everybody very unhappy, and at last Abraham said to Lot : " We must put an end to this wretched quarreling." He and Lot were out upon a high hill that day. They could see ever so far over the land. Abraham pointed to the brown hills on one side and to the green pastures with the shady trees and the beautiful river on the other side. " See," he said, " there is surely room enough for us both in all this land. Take thy flocks and go thy way. We must not quarrel one with the other, so the best way will be to separate." Then Abraham, although he was the elder and had the right to choose first, told Lot : " Choose which thou wilt. I will take the other. Wilt thou have the land there with the green pastures, or the brown hills yonder?" Lot answered : " I will take the green pastures." He knew that was the best, and Abraham let him have it for he was unselfish. So the quarrel was settled.

3. TRANSITION.

What were the names of the two men who were traveling together? Why did they have such a big procession when they were traveling? What happened when they had pitched their tents and were all living together? How did Abraham settle the quarrel?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Sand-tray. Have the sand in the tray damped and ready for moulding. Gather the children around it and let them, in turn, or in some orderly manner, help you to mold the country in which Abraham and Lot were traveling; its hills and plains, river, green pastures, trees, etc. Have sticks or shepherds' crooks to stand for Abraham and Lot; also little tents and some papers to represent the sheep. Practically go over the whole story in this way with the children, moving the tents and sheep, etc., to show how they traveled, encamped, and separated.

Picture

Abraham Journeying into Canaan, by Doré.

Blackboard

Memory Gem

Learn the law of holy love
Sweet and kind and true ;
Do to others as you would
They should do to you.

Lesson 6

Ruth and Naomi (Ruth 1 : 1-22).

Golden Text : Christ also pleased not himself (Rom. 15 : 3).

Result Sought :

Thoughtfulness for others.

Lesson Taught :**1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.**

Did you ever say good-by to some one who was going far away ? Tell me about it.

2. LESSON STORY.

Our story to-day is about some one who had to say good-by to her friends. There lived long ago in the little village of Bethlehem a woman whose name was Naomi. She had a husband, two sons, and many friends. They were all very happy together until a great famine came to the land, and they could not get enough to eat. At last they said good-by to their friends in Bethlehem, and went off to a far-away country called Moab.

Here there was plenty to eat, and by and by the two sons were married. The wife of one was named Ruth, and the wife of the other was named Orpah.

For about ten years they lived together in Moab, until Naomi's husband and her two sons died, and Naomi and Ruth and Orpah were left alone.

Naomi was getting old now and longed to see her home and the old friends she had left there. News had come to her that there was now plenty of food in Bethlehem. So one day she said to Ruth and Orpah : " I must return to Bethlehem " Ruth and Orpah were very sorry to hear this, for they loved their mother-in-law ; especially Ruth, who wept, and said : " Take us with you. We will not let you go alone." But Naomi shook her head. " Nay," she said, " ye would not be happy in Bethlehem, so far away from your own land. I will go alone." Then Ruth and Orpah said : " We will at least go part of the way with thee." So one morning they all started off. It was a beautiful day and the two girls walked a long way with Naomi. When they came to the foot of a long hill Naomi said : " Now, my daughters, turn again and go back home." But they could not bear to say good-by, and wept when she kissed them, and said : " We will not leave thee. Let us go with thee." Naomi replied : " Nay, my daughters, but return to your homes. I am getting old, it is true, but I can take care of myself and I will not take ye away from your friends."

At last Orpah turning away said : " Come, Ruth, we will go back." But Ruth, who was kind and unselfish, thought, " I love my mother-in-law, Naomi, and I cannot allow her to take that long journey all alone. I will go with her." So she put her arms about Naomi and said : " I will go with

thee to thy country ; I will not leave thee." Naomi said : " See ! Orpah has gone back ; return thou with her." But Ruth clung to her and said : " Nay, but I will go with thee ; thy friends shall be my friends, and I will live with thee and care for thee as long as thou shalt live." So together they went to Naomi's country.

3. TRANSITION.

Why did Naomi leave her home in Bethlehem ? What were the names of the two girls she loved ? What did she tell them one day that made them very sorry ? What did they want to do ? What did Orpah do ? What did Ruth do ?

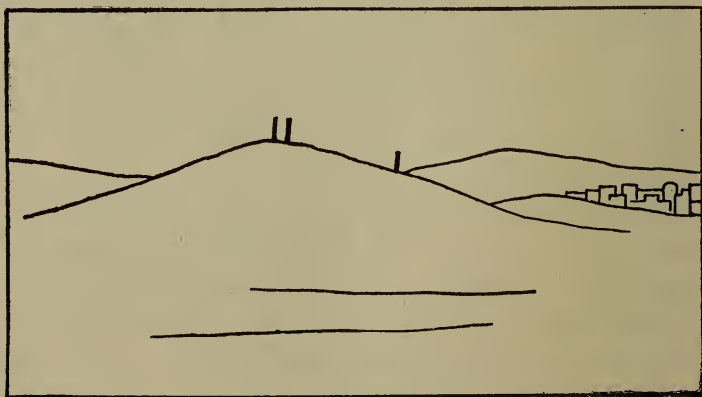
4. EXPRESSION OF THE LESSON STORY.

Drawing. Let the children draw on the little blackboards, or on paper, their ideas of the story.

Picture

Ruth and Naomi, by Calderon.

Blackboard



GOD'S GOODNESS

Golden Text for Lessons 7 to 12: God shall supply every need of yours (Phil. 4 : 19).

Lesson 7

God's Care for Ishmael (Gen. 21 : 12-20).

Result Sought :

Consciousness of God's care.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Were you ever very hungry? Thirsty? Did you ever see any very poor person who was hungry, or thirsty, or who had no home?

2. LESSON STORY.

Our story to-day is about a boy and his mother who got lost, and were hungry and thirsty. This boy's name was Ishmael. Ishmael and his mother, Hagar, lived in the home of a man called Abraham, but a day came when they could stay with Abraham no longer. Abraham was sorry to have them go away, and he gave them some lunch and a bottle of water to take with them.

It was a hot day, and the roads were dusty when they started on their journey. They walked and walked a long, long while over the hot sand and the hills, until they were very tired. They were not only

very tired but very lonesome, for they were far away from their friends, and did not know where they were going to find another home. At last they lay down beneath a tree, and the mother covered the boy over with her cloak, and he slept.

Early in the morning they were awake, and after they had eaten some of the bread and drank some of the water, they started again on their journey. By and by they got away from the road and soon found themselves traveling across a wild and lonely desert place. They tried to find their way back again but could not, and then they discovered that they were quite lost. Ishmael said : " I cannot go any farther, mother, I am so tired." The mother, Hagar, was tired also, and, as it was getting dark, they ate the rest of the bread and drank the water that was left in the bottle, and once more lay down to rest until the morning.

When the bright sun began to rise they awoke. There was no breakfast for them, but they arose and again tried to find their way back to the road. They went this way and that way, but soon became hot and tired. At last their heads ached so that they could go no further. The mother saw that if she could not soon get some water for Ishmael he would surely die. So she laid him down in the shade of a tree and sought everywhere for a spring of water, but could find none. It made her heart very sad to hear Ishmael asking her for water when she had none to give him.

But the heavenly Father heard Ishmael crying for water and he sent an angel to help them. When

the angel came he said : “ Fear not, Hagar, for God hath heard the voice of the lad. Arise, go to him. Lift him up. The Father in heaven will take care of Ishmael.” Then he led her to a beautiful, cool spring of water. How delighted Hagar was to see it ! She brought some to Ishmael and he was refreshed. Then, when she, too, had quenched her thirst and filled the bottle, they went on their way, guided by the angel. Soon they came to some friends who were very kind to them. After a while they made a new home, and Ishmael grew strong and tall until by and by he was able to take care of his mother and himself.

3. TRANSITION.

What happened to Ishmael and his mother when they went to look for a new home ? How did they get water at last ?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Let the children express the story by free drawing in the usual way.

Picture

Hagar and Ishmael in the Desert, by Liska.

Blackboard



Memory Gem

Little modest violet blue,
Spangled o'er with morning dew,
Laughing in the sportive air,
God has made thy leaves so fair;
Little lambs that skip and play
In the meadow fresh and gay,
God protects you by his care,
He has made you bright and fair.

Little star, with twinkling eye,
God has placed thee in the sky;
Little bird, with golden wing,
God has taught thee how to sing;
Little clouds, that lightly rest
On the bosom of the west,
Floating in the summer air,
God has made your form so fair.

Little, merry, laughing child,
Ever playful, ever wild,
Full of gladness, full of love,
God has made thee, God above;
He thy happy spirit keeps,
For he never, never sleeps.
When thy life on earth is past,
He will take thee home at last.

(From *Sunday Songs for Little Singers*, published by the
London Sunday School Union, London, England.)

Lesson 8

God's Care for Elijah (1 Kings 17 : 8-16).

Golden Text : God shall supply every need of
yours (Phil. 4 : 19).

Result Sought :

Consciousness of God's care.

Lesson Taught :**I. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.**

Introduce to-day's story by a brief review of last week's lesson and a few questions, such as the following : Boys and girls, what did you have for breakfast this morning ? Did you have plenty to eat yesterday ? Is there plenty of water to drink in your house ?

2. LESSON STORY.

Once upon a time, long, long ago, there lived a little boy and his mother who were so poor that they had hardly anything to eat or drink in the house. In the country where they lived food was very scarce, so scarce that nobody had any to sell. They could not get even enough water to drink. The reason for this was that for a long time there had not been any rain, and consequently nothing would grow. The oxen and the sheep had nearly all died, and the people were starving.

One day the mother said : "All we have left to eat is a little bit of meal and some oil." Showing it to her boy, she said : "My son, let us go and gather sticks that we may make a fire and cook our last food." Then together they went out to the gate of the city to search for the sticks. As they were gathering the wood they saw a man coming along. He had a woolly mantle and carried a thick staff. When he came near he saluted the woman and said :

“Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water that I may drink.” The woman saw that he was a prophet, God’s messenger, and that he had come a long way and was tired and thirsty, so she turned to do as he asked. As she went, he spoke again : “Bring me also, I pray thee, a morsel of bread.” But the woman said : “Alas ! I have nothing in the house but a handful of meal and a little oil, and I am gathering these sticks that I may cook it for myself and my son.”

Then Elijah, for that was the man’s name, said to her : “Fear not. The heavenly Father is watching over thee. He hath sent me to tell thee that if thou wilt allow me to stay here thou shalt not want. There will always be oil in the cruse and meal in the meal barrel. Therefore go now, bake thy cake, and let us all eat of it. Thou wilt soon see how kind and good the heavenly Father is, and how well he can take care of us all during this famine time.”

Then Elijah went back with the woman and her little son. And the woman baked a cake for Elijah and afterwards baked one for herself and her son. They all ate together and were satisfied. Elijah stayed at their house for many days, until at last God sent rain to the earth once more, and in all that time none of them had to go hungry even once.

3. TRANSITION.

Why did the poor woman and her little boy go out to the gate of the city ? Who came along while they were there ? What did he ask the woman to do for him ? What did she say ? How did the heavenly Father take care of them all ?

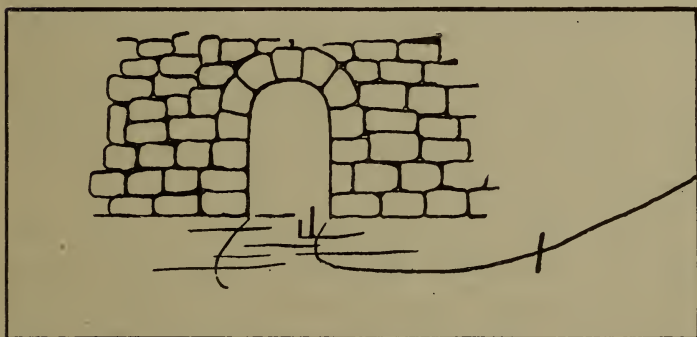
4. EXPRESSION OF THE LESSON STORY.

Sand-tray. Upon the sand-tray build with blocks the city gate. Form the road back over the hills, and with sticks to stand for the woman, her son, and the prophet, represent the meeting between them. Then picture how the prophet went back through the city gates with the mother and son. At this point ask the children if they would not like to build for themselves the little house where the widow and the little boy and Elijah lived. Provide each child with blocks and let each build a simple little house, either under your direction or according to his own ideas, as you may think best.

Picture

The Widow and Her Son Gathering Sticks.

Blackboard



Lesson 9

God's Care for Daniel (Dan. 6 : 1-23).

Golden Text: God shall supply every need of yours
(Phil. 4 : 19).

Result Sought :

Consciousness of God's care.

Lesson Taught :**1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.**

Did you ever see a lion ? Tell me what it looked like. What did it do while you watched it ? How near did you go to it ?

If the children have never seen a lion they have doubtless seen a picture of one, and some questions bearing on its appearance will make a good preparation for the lesson story.

2. LESSON STORY.

I have a wonderful story to tell you to-day about Prince Daniel. This is the same Prince Daniel we have heard about before. Do you remember how when he lived in the king's house he would not eat the very rich things at the king's table because he knew that they were not good for him, and because he knew that his mother and father in the far-away land would not wish him to eat them.

Daniel loved the heavenly Father and every day used to kneel near his window in the beautiful house that the king had given him, to thank him for his loving care. Now there were some people who did not like Prince Daniel, so they asked the king to make a law which they knew Daniel would not like. This law said that anyone who prayed to any God or asked anything of any man for thirty long days would be cast into the den of lions. When Daniel heard about this he was very sorry, for he liked the

king, and did not want to offend him, but he said to himself: "I will not stop praying to the heavenly Father."

One day some of the men who did not like Prince Daniel were passing by and saw him praying. They hurried and told the king about it. Then the king was vexed that he had made that law, for he loved Prince Daniel. He did all he could to save him; but he could not change the law. He went to Daniel and said: "Daniel, I cannot save thee, but thy God will take care of thee in the den of lions." So they put Prince Daniel into the den and put a great stone at the mouth of the den so that he could not get out. It was so dark at first in the den that Daniel could hardly see, but as he looked about him he could make out the big shaggy beasts coming towards him. He could hear their growls as they came nearer, and I am sure he must have been very much frightened, for he knew they were fierce, hungry lions. But presently the lions stopped growling and simply stood still and looked at Daniel with their big, bright eyes. And will you believe it, they did not try to harm him at all! The heavenly Father kept their mouths shut tight, and although Daniel was in the den all night he was quite safe. Very early in the morning, even before the sun was up, he heard a noise near the mouth of the den. It was the king, come to see if Daniel was still alive. Daniel heard him call: "Daniel! O Prince Daniel! hath thy God taken care of thee in the den of lions?" Daniel answered: "O king, live for ever! My God hath shut the lions' mouths, and they

have not hurt me." Then the king was very joyful, and had Daniel taken out of the den at once, and there was no hurt of any kind found upon him.

3. TRANSITION.

How did they come to put Prince Daniel into the den of lions? Was Daniel hurt? Why was he not harmed by the lions?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Drawing. Let the children picture out their idea of the story upon paper or small blackboards.

Picture

Daniel in the Lion's Den, by Riviere.

Lesson 10

God's Care for Peter (Acts 12 : 1-17).

Golden Text: God shall supply every need of yours (Phil. 4 : 19).

Result Sought :

Consciousness of God's care.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Were you ever shut up in a room by yourself? How did it happen? Why couldn't you open the door? How did you feel? What did you do?

2. LESSON STORY.

Our story to-day is about a man named Peter, who

was shut up in a dark room in prison, and how the heavenly Father took care of him. This Peter was a great friend of Jesus. Jesus had gone to his home in heaven, and now Peter was trying to help people by doing the same kind things that Jesus had done while he was on earth. But there was a wicked king living at that time, who was a cruel man and hated the friends of Jesus, and tried to do them all the harm he could.

One day he sent his soldiers to arrest Peter. They came with their shining helmets and long spears and took him to prison, and after they had led him through the big iron gates in the wall, they put him into a small dark room in the inner prison. As they closed the heavy doors they said to one another: "He will never be able to get out of there." But to make quite sure that he could not escape, they put two soldiers into the room with him. They put chains on his hands and fastened the other end of each chain to the hand of one of the soldiers. "Now certainly he will not be able to escape," they said, and soon they went off to sleep.

The king meant to keep Peter in the prison for a while and then put him to death. I am sure Peter was afraid that night that he would never see his friends again. He thought of his home and of his children, and he knew how sorry they would all be because he was not with them. "How can I escape?" thought Peter. "I am chained to these soldiers. If I move they will know it. And even if I could get away from them, the door is shut tightly, and the locks are so big and strong I never could open them."

He knew that other soldiers were guarding the door on the outside, and he was sure that he never would be able to climb over the big iron gates in the wall through which they had brought him in.

Peter had been in prison a good many days and nights, when one of the soldiers told him that soon, perhaps the very next day, the king was going to put him to death. But that same night, as he was sleeping between the two soldiers who guarded him, Peter was awakened by a bright light shining into the room. He felt a touch on the shoulder and it wakened him. As soon as he opened his eyes, he saw standing before him an angel, dressed in white, shining garments. He was a beautiful angel and had such a kind face that Peter knew he had come to help him. Just then the angel spoke softly to him and said: "Arise quickly." Peter thought of the chains that were on his wrists and feared that he would awaken the sleeping guards. But when he looked, the chains had fallen off, for the angel had quietly unlocked them, and the soldiers were still fast asleep. "Put on thy coat," the angel said, "and thy shoes upon thy feet. Put also thy cloak about thy shoulders." Peter did so. Then said the angel: "Come, follow me." Peter wondered about the locked door and the big iron gate, but he followed the angel. The guards were all sleeping, and when the angel touched the great iron gate it opened of its own accord, and they went out together.

As soon as Peter was free the angel left him. Peter rubbed his eyes in astonishment. "Is it a dream?" he said, but when he found himself wide

awake and outside of the prison, he said : " Now I know what has happened. The heavenly Father has sent his angel and has delivered me out of the hand of the king." Then he ran quickly and came to the home of one of his friends. When he knocked at the door a little maid named Rhoda came. Instead of opening it, she asked : " Who is there ? " and when she heard Peter's voice she was so glad that she clapped her hands and ran to tell the others without even stopping to let him in. When she told them they said : " No, you must be mistaken." But she cried : " Oh, I am sure it is Peter ! " Then they said : " Perhaps it is his angel." But Peter continued knocking, and when they opened the door they saw him, and were amazed. Then Peter said : " Listen, I will tell you how the heavenly Father has taken care of me." So he told them how the angel had come and how the chains had slipped off, and the doors had swung open, and he had been set free.

Then he left his friends and went away quickly to a place where the cruel king would not be able to find him.

3. TRANSITION.

What was the name of Jesus' friend whom the soldiers put in prison ? What did they do to him to make sure that he would not escape ? What happened one night in the prison when everyone was sleeping ? Where did Peter go when the angel left him ? Who sent the angel to take care of Peter ?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Give each child a certain number of blocks. Let them build under your direction a very simple little prison. In order to have the result the same in every case, the children should add each separate block according to your dictation and the one which you will build with them.

Picture

Liberation of St. Peter, by Raphael.

Lesson II

God's Care for Us (Psa. 23 : 1-6).

Golden Text : God shall supply every need of yours (Phil. 4 : 19).

Result Sought :

Consciousness of God's care.

Suggestions to the Teacher :

While the central idea of the Twenty-third Psalm, "I shall not want," has been taken as the basis for the lesson of the day, yet the analogy of the shepherd's care has not been wrought into the lesson. This for two good reasons :

1. Because the young child does not think in analogies. He will not be likely to see the likeness between the shepherd's care of the sheep and God's care of him. His mind does not work like the mind of an adult and the truth must be presented from a child's point of view.

2. In a few weeks we shall have the lesson of Jesus' Story of the Lost Sheep, and want to preserve its freshness until that time.

Lesson Taught :**I. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.**

What did you have for breakfast this morning ?

2. LESSON STORY.

Yes, you had milk. Where did your mama get the milk that she gave you ? Where did the milkman get it ? Who made the cows that give us the sweet, rich milk ? Some one had eggs for breakfast. Where did mama get the eggs ? Where did the grocer get them ? Where did the farmer find them ? Who ever saw some eggs in a nest ? How many were there ? How did they get there ? Who gives us the hens which lay us the big, white eggs ? What else did you have for breakfast ? Bread ? Where did mama get the bread ? But where did the baker get the bread ? What did he bake it with ? Where did he get the flour ? How did the miller get the flour ? What did he grind it from ? Where did he get the wheat to grind ? Where did the farmer get the wheat ? Where did he grow it ? What made it grow ? Who sent the sunshine and rain to help it grow ?

What did you put on when you set out to come to Sunday-school to-day ? Your new dress ? What is it made of ? Some kind of wool ? Where did you get your new dress ? But where did mama get it ? Where did the man in the store get it ? But where

did the man who made it get the wool to make it with? Who made the wool to grow upon the sheep's back? Who gave you those pretty furs? Where did papa get them? Where did the fur-man get them? Who made the pretty animals from which we get the nice warm furs?

What is this Sunday-school room and church built with? Wood and stone? Where do the men get the wood? Who makes the trees to grow?

When we go to drive what pulls us along? Who made the horses? When we are playing in the house what sometimes creeps quietly in to the room on soft little paws? Do you love your kitty? Who made kitty? Have you a doggie that you love very much? Who made doggies? Tell me how many people live in your home? Mama and papa? Brother and baby sister? and grandma? Who has given us our dear mamas and our kind papas to take care of us? Who has sent us our dear little baby sisters and brothers? Who allows us to keep our dear grandmothers and grandfathers with us until they become quite old?

Who made the beautiful out-of-doors with the sun and the grass and the beautiful flowers? Yes, it is the dear heavenly Father that gives us every one of these good things. He is always caring for us as he cared for little Ishmael and Elijah and David and Peter.

3. EXPRESSION OF THE LESSON STORY.

Modeling. Give each child a lump of modeling clay or plasticene and let him model an egg, a loaf of

bread, or some such simple object in connection with the lesson.

Drawing. Failing this, let them draw any of the things of which they have been talking.

Picture

Two Mothers and their Families, by Gardner.

Lesson 12

God's Care for All Things (Matt. 6 : 25-30).

Golden Text: God shall supply every need of yours
(Phil. 4 : 19).

Result Sought :

Consciousness of God's care.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Do you ever go out into the woods to play ? Tell me some of the things you see when you go there. In response to this question the children will mention trees, grass, flowers, birds, bees, etc.

2. LESSON STORY.

Far down in Mother Earth a tiny seed was sleeping, safely wrapped in a warm brown jacket. The little seed had been asleep for a long, long time and now somebody thought it was time for him to wake up. This somebody was an earthworm that lived close by. He had been creeping about and found that all the seeds in the neighborhood had roused themselves

and were pushing their roots deep down into the earth, and lifting their heads up, up through the soil into the bright sunshine and fresh air.

So when the worm saw this little seed still sleeping he cried : "Oh, you lazy fellow, wake up ! All the seeds are awake and growing, and you have slept long enough."

"But how can I grow or move at all in this tight brown jacket ?" said the seed in a drowsy tone.

"Why, push it off. That's the way the other seeds have done ; just move about a little and it will come off."

The little seed tried, but the tough jacket wouldn't break ; and all the time the worm was telling him how happy the other seeds were, now that they had lifted their heads into the sunshine.

"Oh dear, oh dear !" said the seed, "what shall I do ? I can't break this jacket, and I shall never see the beautiful sunshine ! Besides I'm so sleepy I can't keep awake any longer," and he fell asleep again.

"The lazy fellow," thought the earthworm ; "but it is strange that the other seeds shed their jackets so easily. What could have helped them, I wonder ?"

The little seed slept soundly for a long while, but at last he awoke, and found his jacket soft and wet, instead of hard and dry, and when he moved about it gave way entirely and dropped off.

Then he felt so warm and happy that he cried : "I really believe I am going to grow after all. Who could have helped me take off my jacket ? And who woke me, I wonder,—for I don't see any one near by."

"I woke you," said a soft voice close by. "I'm a sunbeam and I came down to wake you, and my friends, the raindrops moistened your jacket so that you might find it ready to slip off."

"Oh, thank you," said the seed, "you're all very kind. Will you help me to grow into a plant, too?"

"Yes," said the sunbeam, "I'll come as often as I can to help you, and the raindrops will come too, and then, if you work hard, with our help you will become a beautiful plant, I am sure."

"But," said the seed, "how did you know that I was sleeping here? Could you see me?"

"No," said the sunbeam, "but my Father could look down from his home in heaven, and he saw you far beneath the earth trying to grow, and he called the raindrops to him and said: 'One of my seed children is sleeping down there, and he wants to grow. Go down and help him, and tell the sunbeams to follow you and wake the seed, so that he may begin to grow as soon as he will.'"

"How kind he is!" said the seed. "If he had not seen me sleeping here I should have always been a brown seed, I suppose. Who is your kind Father?"

"He is your Father, too. He is every one's Father, and takes care of everybody. Nothing could live without him."

"How can I thank him?" said the seed. "What can I do that would please him very much?"

"Grow into just the best plant that you possibly can," said the sunbeam. "That will please him most of all"

So the seed grew into a beautiful vine, that climbed higher and higher towards the heavens, from which the Father smiled down upon him to reward his labor.

3. TRANSITION.

Who was it came to wake up the little brown seed one day? What did the little seed feel like? Who woke him up at last? What did the sunbeam tell him? Who helps all the little plants to grow? Who helps all the trees to put on their beautiful green leaves? Tell me some more of the things that the kind heavenly Father cares for and helps to grow.

As the children mention different flowers, birds, bees, animals, etc., dwell a little upon them and show in what manner the heavenly Father cares for each.

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Choose one child to be the little brown seed which is to turn into a vine, allow others to be flowers or plants growing, as the children choose for themselves. Still others can be birds, butterflies, animals, or anything else you have talked about with them. Allow the children for a little time to follow out the actions of the different characters which they represent; for example, let the little seed grow up into a vine, let the flowers and plants grow higher and blossom out, allow the bees to buzz around busily and the butterflies to visit the different flowers. The birds can sing in the trees or hop about; squirrels

can gather nuts ; little mice can creep about very softly, etc. While in this way you allow the children freedom to play their respective parts, you must constantly watch lest they become excited and get beyond control.

Picture

Return to the Farm, by Troyon.

GRATITUDE

Golden Text for Lessons 13 and 14: Be ye thankful (Col. 3 : 15). _____

Lesson 13

A Man Thanking Jesus (Luke 17 : 11-19).

Result Sought :

A spirit of gratitude.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

What do we say to people when they pass us something at the dinner or supper table? If some person does some kind thing for us, what should we say?

2. LESSON STORY

Our story to-day is about a man who did not forget to say "thank you." This man was called a Samaritan, and he was very ill. He was a leper and lived with nine other men who also had leprosy. It was a very sad thing to be a leper, because no doctor knew how to cure people who were ill with that disease. Lepers were not allowed to live in the city with the other people. It must have been very lonely for them to leave their brothers and sisters and little children and go away off to live by themselves.

This man and his nine friends lived upon the hills outside a little village. One time a man told them

that there was a kind man named Jesus who could cure any one who was ill. "He spends all his time helping people," the man said. "If only he would come along this way he might cure us," thought the lepers. After that they watched for him and waited day by day, hoping to hear that he was coming. At last some one told them that he really was coming to the village. So they hurried down the road and, sure enough, they saw him in the distance. They ran to meet him, but they did not dare to go close to people for fear they would give others their disease. They stood off by the side of the road and, as he was passing, cried out to him: "Jesus, Master! have mercy on us." Jesus heard the cry, and turning saw them. He stood still and looked at them, with a great pity in his beautiful eyes; then he called back: "Go and show yourselves unto the priests." The lepers turned at once and hurried to the village, and even as they went along they felt themselves getting better. When they looked at one another they found that they were all quite cured. The Samaritan's nine friends hurried on to the village to show themselves to the priests, but when the Samaritan found that he was really cured, he turned and ran back to Jesus, and falling upon his face at his feet thanked him for curing him, for making him well.

3. TRANSITION.

What was the matter with the Samaritan and his nine friends? Where did they live? Who did they hear of one day? When they heard that Jesus

was coming what did they do? What happened? When he found that he was cured what did the Samaritan do?

4. EXPRESSION OF THE LESSON STORY.

Sand-tray. Let the children help you to mold the country where the lepers lived, the hills, roads, etc., and put in the village. Picture the story, laying emphasis upon the incident of the Samaritan turning back to thank Jesus. Use sticks for the lepers, and perhaps a little cross for Jesus. Represent also the crowd of people that in all probability were there.

Picture

Jesus Healing the Ten Lepers, artist unknown.

Thank him, thank him, all ye little children,
He is love! he is love!
Thank him, thank him, all ye little children,
He is love! he is love!

Lesson 14

A Lame Man Thanking God (Acts 3: 1-10).

Golden Text: Be ye thankful (Col. 3: 15).

Result Sought:

A spirit of gratitude.

Lesson Taught:

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Do you know any one who is lame? Can he run and jump and play? Tell me some of the things you could not do if you were lame.

2. LESSON STORY.

Our story is about a lame man and how he was cured. This man had been lame from the time he was born. He had never been able to run or jump or play. When he was a boy he could not join in the games with the other boys, but had to sit by himself and watch them. As he saw the other children playing hide-and-seek and tag, he used to say to himself : “I wish I could run ; I wish I could jump.” And sometimes he would try to stand upon his poor, crooked feet, but whenever he did that he hurt them so that he fell down and had to lie quite still for a long time. If he wanted to go to see any of his friends, he had to wait until somebody was ready to carry him ; often he could not go at all for there was nobody who had time to take him. The worst of it was no doctor in all the land could cure him. And then he was very poor. Being lame, he could not earn money by going errands for people or by working in the garden as other boys could do. As he grew older, he grew even poorer, until at last there was nothing for him to do but beg. Every morning some of his friends would carry him to the place where the beggars sat. This was at the gate of the big church. People called it the Gate Beautiful. Here numbers of beggars were brought every day, for many people passed in and out through this gate and sometimes they would give something to the poor who sat there. I am sure the lame man looked into the face of every one who passed by. He used to hold out his hand and say to one and another : “Wilt thou not help a lame man who cannot work ?” And all the

time he was saying to himself : " Oh, how I wish I were not lame. I would rather work than beg. If my feet were strong I would not sit here another moment."

One day two men named Peter and John came to the Gate Beautiful. One of them was the same Peter who was put in the prison and taken out by the angel. Both of them had kindly faces and the lame man wondered if they would give him something. As they came near, he held out his hand and begged : " Give something, I pray thee, to a poor lame man." The two men looked with pity on him and the other beggars there. They could not give them any money, for they were quite poor themselves, but Peter stopped and spoke to the lame man : " Silver and gold have I none," he said, " but I will help thee in another way." " How canst thou help me?" asked the lame man, and seeing that Peter was looking at his poor lame feet, he added : " Thou canst not make my feet strong and well. Oh, if I could walk I would not ask thee for money. I would rather have my feet strong than have my hands filled with money."

Even while the man was speaking, Peter stooped and took hold of his hand and said : " I say unto thee, rise up and walk." The lame man could hardly believe that he heard aright. To think that someone should tell him to walk when he had wished all his life to do that very thing, but never could ! But Peter was helping him up and repeating the words : " Rise up and walk !" The next moment he was standing up. When he found he could stand upon

them he was so excited that he began to walk and run and jump. He could hardly believe it true that he was cured, so he jumped and leaped to make quite sure.

Very soon he remembered the kind man Peter who had helped him. He went to him and falling on his face before him began to thank him, but Peter took him by the hand and led him into the great church, and told him not to thank him, but to thank the heavenly Father.

3. TRANSITION.

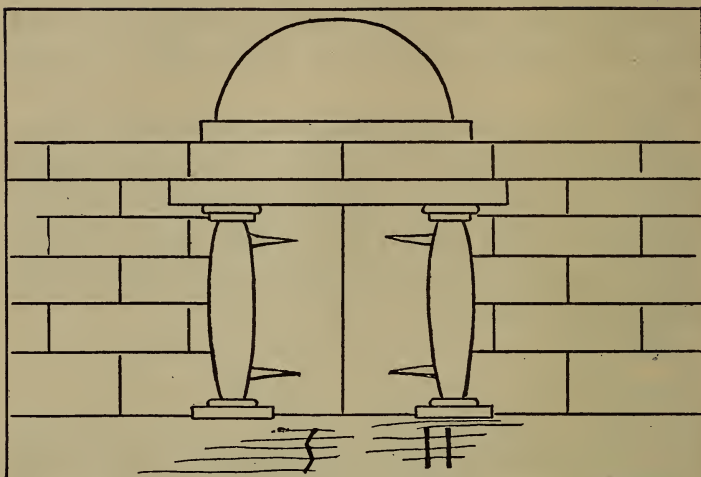
What was the matter with the poor man who begged at the Gate Beautiful? Who came along one day as he was sitting there? How did Peter help him? What did the man do? Who did Peter tell him to thank?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Physical. Let the children make believe that they are lame beggars sitting at the Gate Beautiful. When they have been lame a little while let them rise and make believe they are cured. A little leaping and jumping will not do any harm if the teacher is prepared for it, and it will help the children to realize a little of the joy of the lame man when he found himself cured. Here the teacher can emphasize the great helpfulness of Peter's action.

Picture

Peter and John at the Gate Beautiful, by Raphael.

Blackboard

HELPFULNESS

Golden Text for Lessons 15 to 18: Let us do good unto all (Gal. 6: 10).

Lesson 15

A Little Girl Helping Her Master (2 Kings 5: 1-5, 9-14).

Result Sought:

Development of a spirit of helpfulness.

Lesson Taught:

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Begin to-day by a talk about the sunbeams. Did you ever watch the sunbeams, boys and girls? Did you ever see them come in through the window, and shine brightly on the floor? Can you tell me what color they are? What would the world be like if there weren't any sunbeams at all? Did you ever know that the lovely flowers would not grow if they did not have the sunbeams to help them, and that the birds would not feel like singing because it would be dark all the time? I don't believe little boys and girls would want to go out to play without the sunbeams to help them to see. Just think what a lot the sunbeams do for us!

2. LESSON STORY.

The story I have for you to-day is about a little maiden who was just like one of these little sun-

beams. This little girl did not live with her father and mother. She had been brought far away from her home to live in a strange land in the house of a great soldier named Naaman, and now she was a servant and waited upon the soldier's wife.

She was a little dark-eyed Jewish maiden, and very pretty she looked in her red robe, with her rosy cheeks and black hair. The soldier's wife was glad to have the little maid to wait upon her. She was such a useful little maid; whenever her mistress wished to wash her hands she brought the basin and held it for her; when she wanted to dress her beautiful hair, the little maid brought the combs and helped her. Sometimes she even dressed it for her. When the sun shone so brightly in that eastern land that her mistress felt hot and tired, she would get the feather fan with the long handle, and, standing behind her mistress' chair, fan her until she was refreshed. She was very happy in her beautiful home and grew to love her kind mistress and her master. Nothing made her happier than to be helping them. But sometimes it was difficult to make her mistress happy, for she had a great trouble. Her husband, the soldier, suffered from the dreadful disease of leprosy, and there was no one in that land who could cure him.

One day when the little maid went to her mistress she saw that she had been crying. She knew what it was that made her cry. As she was helping her mistress to dress she thought: "I would that my master could be cured. Are there not lepers in my land as well as here? Yes, and they have been

cured sometimes. Not by the doctors, for they do not know how to cure leprosy, but by some one, surely! Yes! I remember, it was Elisha, the great prophet, who cured them. Why could he not also cure my master? I will tell my mistress." So she told her mistress about the great prophet Elisha, who could cure her master if only he would go to see him. Her mistress at once told Naaman, her husband; and the great soldier, so glad to hear of some one who would perhaps help him, took his servants and set out in his chariot for the far-off home of the little maid.

When it was nearly time for him to come home again, the little maid watched every day to see him returning. At last one day she saw the horses and the chariot far off on the hillside. Nearer and nearer it came. Faster and faster galloped the horses, right through the city gate until they had drawn up at the great door below.

"I am cured," cried Naaman to his wife, as he hurried into the house. "The little maid has saved my life." Then there was great gladness and music and rejoicing in the home of Naaman the soldier. But I think there was no one more happy among them all than the little maid who loved and helped her mistress and her master. Don't you think they must have loved the little maiden who had brought so much sunshine into their home?

3. TRANSITION.

What was the name of the great soldier in whose house the little maid lived? What work did she do

in his home? Why was Naaman's wife often very sad? How did the little maid help?

4 EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Let the children express their ideas of the story by free drawing.

Picture

The Little Maid and Her Mistress.

Memory Gem

Help one another, the snowflakes said,
As they cuddled down in their fleecy bed.
One of us here would not be felt,
One of us here would quickly melt,
But I'll help you and you help me,
And then what a big white drift you'll see.

Lesson 16

**Samuel Helping in the House of God (1 Sam.
3 : 1-10).**

Golden Text : Let us do good unto all (Gal. 6 : 10).

Result Sought :

Development of a spirit of helpfulness.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

How many of you have ever seen a blind man?

2. LESSON STORY.

Our story to-day is about an old man who was nearly blind, and a little boy who was his helper. Eli, the old man, lived in the Tabernacle. That was

what God's house, the church, was called long ago. It was like a great wide tent; not a bit like the churches we have nowadays. Eli lived in the Tabernacle all the time, for he was the chief minister. They called him the High Priest. He had white hair and a long white beard, and wore a beautiful robe of blue and gold.

One day there came to the temple a dark-haired woman. She brought a beautiful little boy, who had red cheeks and curling hair that reached to his shoulders. She said to Eli: "My lord, I have brought thee the little boy Samuel. Wilt thou take him to live with thee in the Tabernacle and let him help thee to minister before the Lord?" Eli put forth his hand and laid it upon the boy's head. He said: "My little son, I shall be very glad to have thee here."

After that Eli gave Samuel a little white linen robe, like those the other priests wore, and Samuel became Eli's helper. At first he had to learn to read and write, for he was too small to do many of the things that the other priests had to do. But he could often help them. When he grew older he helped by pouring the oil into the lamp that was always burning, and by swinging the bowls of sweet incense to and fro before the altar. Sometimes he covered the vessels in the holy place with their purple and scarlet cloths, or blew one of the long silver trumpets when it was time for a procession to begin, and every night he had to shut the big doors of the tent.

Eli, the High Priest, grew to love him very dearly. Whenever the boy heard him calling, "Samuel,

Samuel," he ran to him at once. Sometimes Eli wanted him to carry a message for him, sometimes he wanted Samuel to lead him about, for he could not see to get about by himself. But whenever Eli wanted him, Samuel was always ready to help him.

Every year Samuel's mother came to see him, and each time she came she brought a beautiful little coat that she had made for him herself. It pleased her so much when one day Eli said: "Samuel is my helper. I could not do without him now."

Samuel lived in the Tabernacle with Eli until the time of the old priest's death, and even after that he lived there helping and serving.

3. TRANSITION.

What was the name of the old High Priest? Who came to live with him? How did little Samuel help in the temple?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Physical. Lead the children to imitate some of the activities of the boy Samuel. For example, they can make believe to pour the oil into the lamps, swing the bowls of incense and blow the trumpets. Some of the children can pretend to be blind Elis, others can be Samuels and each lead an Eli about the room. Other activities will probably suggest themselves or be suggested by the children in the course of the lesson.

Picture

Child Samuel presented to Eli, by Opie.

Lesson 17**Friends Helping a Sick Man (Mark 2 : 1-12).**

Golden Text : Let us do good unto all (Gal. 6 : 10).

Result Sought :

Development of a spirit of helpfulness.

Lesson Taught :**1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.**

Did you ever see any one who could not use his arms and legs and stand up straight and tall like a soldier ?

2. LESSON STORY.

Our story to-day is about a man who was weak and helpless, and how some friends helped him. This man was so helpless that he could not walk or even stand. People had to wait upon him all the time. He could not play with his children as your papa can, and I suppose the family were very poor, because they had no strong father to work for them. The doctors had tried to help this poor man but they did not seem to do him any good. His friends were very sorry for him and did what they could, but in spite of all he seemed to get worse and worse. At last one day one of these friends heard that Jesus was in the city and in a house not very far away. At once they thought of their poor sick friend, and decided that they would carry him to Jesus and ask him to heal him. So four of them went to the sick man's house and said to him : "Jesus is preaching in a house not very far away. We have come to

take you to him. We are sure he will be able to cure you." So each took hold of a corner of the thin mattress on which he lay and carried him right out of the house and along the road to the place where Jesus was. But there they found such a great crowd of people that they could not hope to enter the door. However they would not turn back. They wanted to see their helpless friend cured, and they were sure that no one but Jesus could cure him.

On the outside of the house was a stairway which led up to the roof. They thought perhaps they could get into the house by the roof. So they carefully carried their burden up the stairs. They saw that there was nothing to do but make a hole in the roof and lower their friend down through it into the house. So they took up some of the boards and straw, until a large enough opening was made. Looking down, they saw Jesus teaching a great many people in the room below. Quickly they tied a rope to each of the four corners of the mattress and carefully lowered it right in front of Jesus. When all the people saw the sick man on the mattress they stopped talking and wondered what Jesus would do. What do you think he did? I am sure he was pleased with the men who had tried so hard to help their helpless friend. Perhaps he guessed that there were some little children outside waiting to see if their father would come out cured. Looking kindly at the man he said : "Arise, take up thy bed and walk." Then the man was cured, and rising up folded his mattress and went away to his home with the kind friends who had helped him.

3. TRANSITION.

What did the sick man's friends decide to do when they heard that Jesus was close by? How did they get him to Jesus to be cured?

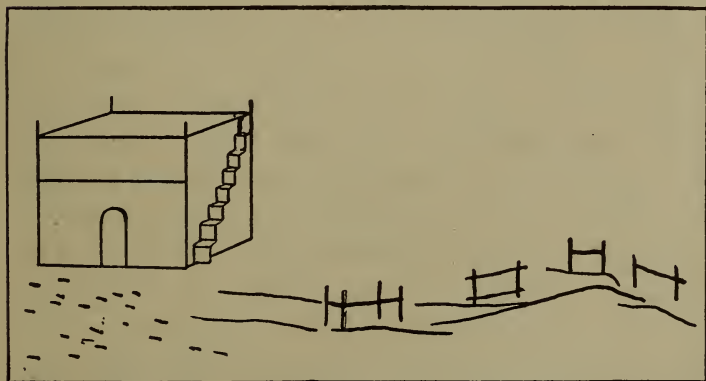
4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Blocks. Give the children blocks and let them build with you in the simplest possible manner a little eastern house with the outside stairs up to the roof.

Picture

The Paralytic Healed, by Bida.

Blackboard



Lesson 18

A Little Boy Helping Jesus (John 6:5-14).

Golden Text: Let us do good unto all (Gal. 6:10).

Result Sought:

Development of a spirit of helpfulness.

Lesson Taught :**1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.**

Did you ever go for a picnic? What do you take with you when you go for a picnic?

2. LESSON STORY.

To-day we have a story about a little lad and a lunch. This little lad lived in the same land with Jesus. He loved Jesus very much, and as often as he could went with the other boys to see him heal the sick people and to hear him tell beautiful stories.

One day he heard a man say to a friend: "Jesus has gone out into the country; let us follow him and perhaps he will talk with us." The little lad thought: "How I should love to go, too! I wonder if mother would let me." So he ran home and asked his mother if he might go with the others. She said, "Yes," and gave him some little cakes of bread and two small fishes to take along with him for a lunch. She knew he would be hungry before he got home.

Then the little lad started happily off. By and by he came to the place where a great crowd of people were gathered to listen to Jesus. He pushed through the crowd, and got near enough to hear quite well. After a while Jesus stopped speaking to the people and moved away a little distance to rest. But the people all followed after him, for they loved to be near him. The little lad followed, too, and got quite close to him.

Pretty soon he heard one of Jesus' friends say: "The Master wishes to give bread to all these people, but we have none whatever for them." The lad

thought of his lunch and wished that he might help Jesus. He ran up to the man and said ; " See, I have here five cakes of barley bread and two small fishes ; take them to the Master ; perhaps he can use them." The man said : " Come, bring them to the Master." As Jesus took the little lad's lunch he smiled, to thank him, and laid his hand on his curly head.

Then Jesus bowed his head and stretched forth his hand for the people to bow also. When all were quiet Jesus prayed, and thanked the heavenly Father for the loaves and the fishes. After that, Jesus began to break them into pieces. Now a wonderful thing happened. There were more and more pieces, until the disciple cried out in amazement : " There is going to be enough for everybody." Jesus said to him : " Go and make all the people sit down, fifty in one place, one hundred in another, until all are seated." The disciple and his friends did so. And when they counted the people they found that there were more than five thousand of them. Then Jesus sent to each one some bread and some fish. The little lad helped the disciples to serve all the people, and then they had lunch. Everyone had plenty to eat.

And when they gathered up the pieces that were left, there were twelve large baskets full. I expect the little birds had a good lunch from some of the big crumbs.

It was only a little boy and only a little lunch, but a little boy and a little lunch were able to make a great many people happy.

3. TRANSITION.

Who did the little lad go out to the country to hear one day? What did he take with him? How did he help Jesus?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Drawing. Let the children express their ideas of this story by free drawing.

Picture

Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes, by Murillo.

Blackboard**Lesson 19**

God Helping Us by the Gift of His Son (Matt. 1 : 21. Luke 2 : 1-20. 1 Tim. 1 : 15).

Golden Text : For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son (John 3 : 16).

Result Sought :

Development of a spirit of happy helpfulness.

Suggestion to Teachers :

We have given the whole Christmas story in the

following lesson ; possibly it is too long and some of it may wisely be omitted, but that depends upon the teacher and the intelligence of the class.

Lesson Taught :

I. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Before you go to sleep on Christmas Eve, what do you hang up in your room ? What do you hope to find in your stocking on Christmas morning ? What do you feel like when you have found all the beautiful gifts ?

After this fashion talk a little with the children about the gifts which they receive or give.

2. LESSON STORY

Our story to-day is about the first and the very best Christmas gift that ever was given.

Very late one night a sweet-faced young woman named Mary, with Joseph, her husband, came to the door of the Inn in the city of Bethlehem. Mary rode on a donkey which Joseph led by the bridle. They asked for a room, but the innkeeper told them that the Inn was quite full, and that they could not stay there. So they turned away and Joseph went from door to door trying to find a place to sleep. But no one had a room. At last they came back to the Inn. Then the innkeeper told them that although there was not a room for them in the house, they might go into the stable and sleep there for the night. The stable was only a cave in a big rock but they were so tired that they were glad to go into it.

That night, there in the stable where the cows and the sheep and the chickens lived, the Father, God,

sent to the mother, Mary, the first Christmas gift. It was a dear little baby boy ; the Christ-child. How happy this gift made the Mother Mary. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger from which the cattle fed.

But I must tell you of something else that happened that same night. Away out upon the hillside there were some shepherds keeping watch over their flocks. All the sheep were in the fold, and the shepherds in their woolly mantles of sheepskin, were sitting around a fire which they had built near the door of the sheepfold. As they sat there they could keep watch in case some robber came to steal one of the sheep, or a wolf or bear crept near to get one of the lambs. Suddenly, from the dark sky above them there shone a wonderfully bright light, and an angel in white garments all shining, came and stood before them. The shepherds were afraid and dazzled by the light. But the angel said : " Fear not. I have come to bring ye good news. The Christ-child is born in the city of Bethlehem. If ye go to the city, ye will find him there wrapped in swaddling clothes, and lying in a manger."

Then there appeared in the bright light a great many other angels in shining garments, and they all began to sing a beautiful song of praise, because they were so glad that the dear Christ-child was born. This is what they sang : " Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." The shepherds were full of joy when they heard the good news, and when the angels had gone back to heaven and the bright light

had quite faded away, they said to one another : "The Christ-child is born in Bethlehem. Let us go and seek him." So they drew their garments tightly around them and picked up their great 'shepherds' crooks and hurried to the city. Before long they came to the stable where the baby lay. They found him lying there on the hay near the cows and sheep, and they kneeled down by his side and looked into his dear little face. Then they bowed their heads and thanked the kind father God for sending such a dear gift to the world. After that they went back to their sheep on the hillside.

Not many days after this some other visitors came to see the baby boy. These were some wise men. They came from the far-off East, and they had been led on the journey to Bethlehem by a beautiful bright star, which shone above them in the sky. When they saw the baby lying in the manger lined with hay, they said to the mother, Mary: "Is this the promised Christ-child?" Mary answered: "It is he." Then their faces shone with joy, and they fell upon their knees and placed beside him beautiful gifts of gold and sweet smelling perfume which they had brought all the way from their home in the East, for they were rich. Then they went back to their homes, rejoicing that they had found the Christ-child.

Just about that time the day came for the baby to be named. Long before God sent the baby boy an angel had told the mother, Mary, what to call him. I wonder if you can tell me what the name was? Yes, it was Jesus ; and that is the name that we all

love so much because the baby Jesus was God's Christmas gift to all the people who live on the big round world.

3. TRANSITION.

What was the very first Christmas gift? Who sent the dear baby boy? To whom did the father God send him? Where did the mother Mary lay her baby boy? Who came to see the Christ-child the day after God had sent him to the mother Mary? Who else visited him? What did they bring him? What did the mother Mary name the dear Christ-child?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Give each of the children an outlined picture of a manger-cradle and allow them to color it (preferably in brown or gray) with crayons or paints.

Picture

The Arrival of the Shepherds, by Lerolle.

JESUS OUR HELPER

Golden Text for Lessons 20 to 22: Lord, be thou my helper (Psa. 30 : 10).

Lesson 20

Jesus Helping the Fishermen (John 21 : 2-13).

Result Sought :

Consciousness of Jesus as a ready helper.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Did you ever see anybody fishing? Who has a father or brother who goes fishing? What does he catch? Does he ever come home without catching anything?

2. LESSON STORY.

Our story to-day is about seven men who went fishing and who fished all night without catching anything. Do you remember the man who was put in prison? What was his name?

One evening this same Peter was sitting talking with Thomas and John and some other men who were friends of Jesus. They had been talking together a while when Peter, starting up, said to the others, "I am going fishing." The others said, "That is a good idea. We will go with you." So they all walked down to the beach and found their fishing nets. These they put into the boat. Then

they all took hold of the boat, and with some very strong pulls and pushes got it out into the water. Next they put up the sail, and away they went, off over the waters to the fishing place. After they arrived there they lowered their nets and fished for a time, but did not catch any fish. "It will be better when it gets quite dark," said Peter, for he knew that the night was the best time to fish. But even when it was dark they did not catch anything. They worked all night until the morning light began to appear red in the sky, but there was not a fish in the nets. When the bright sun rose they were all tired and discouraged and Peter said, "There is no use fishing any longer. Let us give it up and go home." The others agreed, but just then they heard some one calling to them from the beach. The voice said, "Children, have ye caught any fish?"

They were too far away to see who it was that asked, but Peter answered: "No, we have not caught a single one." The voice came again: "Cast the net on the right side of the boat and thou wilt find fish." So they put out the net on the right side, and sure enough, it was soon full of fish, so full that all together they could not lift it into the boat. Then John said: "I know who it is that hath called to us from the beach. It is Jesus." "Is it?" said Peter, and he was so glad to hear it that he put his fisherman's coat around him, and without saying a word to any one, jumped into the water and swam to the shore. The rest of the disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fishes after them in the water. When they reached the beach they found a

fire ready and some fish cooking. There was some bread for them, too. Jesus said : "Bring some of the fish which ye have now caught." So Peter went on board the boat and drew the net to the beach. They found that they had caught one hundred and fifty-three large fishes, and although there were so many, the net had not even been torn.

When all the fish were counted they brought some of them, and Jesus cooked them with the others. He knew that they had been working all night and must be tired and hungry. "Come and have breakfast," he said. And there in the beautiful morning sunshine they all sat about the fire, and Jesus took the bread and fish and waited upon the tired men while they ate.

3. TRANSITION.

Where did Peter and his friends go one evening? How long did they fish? How much did they catch? In the morning who called to them from the shore? How did He help them? When Peter found out who it was what did he do? What did the men find ready for them when they came to the beach? Who had prepared it? How many fishes did they catch? Who waited on them while they ate their breakfast?

4. EXPRESSION OF THE LESSON STORY.

Drawing. Let the children draw freely in the usual way their ideas of the story.

Picture

Miraculous Draught of Fishes, by Doré.

Memory Gem

“His hands were always helping,
His eyes were always kind,
And he never was too busy
To heal the sick and blind.”

Lesson 21

Jesus Feeding Four Thousand Men (Matt. 15 :
32=39 : Mark 8 : 1=9).

Golden Text : Lord, be thou my helper (Psa. 30 : 10).

Result Sought :

Consciousness of Jesus as a ready helper.

Lesson Taught :**1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.**

Were you ever very hungry? Why were you hungry? What did you do about it? Suppose mother did not have anything for you to eat, what would you have done?

2. LESSON STORY.

I am going to tell you a story to-day about a lot of very hungry people and how they were fed. Wherever Jesus went, the people gathered together to hear him and to ask him questions. The boys and girls loved to gather near and listen to the stories he used to tell. Wherever he went he told them most beautiful stories. Many of the people brought with them their sick friends for Jesus to cure. He made the feet of those who were lame so strong that they could walk as well and quickly as other people.

He touched the eyes of blind people with his gentle hand, and they were opened so that they could see the beautiful world and their friends. One time he touched the lips of a little boy who could not speak, and after that he was able to talk like other children.

One bright day Jesus came to a mountain near the Sea of Galilee. He had only been there a very little while when a great crowd of people came to him. They came from every part of the country.

There were lots of boys and girls; some of the boys had raced with one another to see who would get there first. Some rode on donkeys, and some came across the sea in boats. Some had to be carried, for they were ill and lame and needed Jesus to heal them; others had to be led by the hand, for they were blind and could not see the way. Mothers brought their little babies who were ill, and brothers brought their sick sisters. They knew that Jesus would cure them. And he did cure them, and talked to them, too, and they loved so to be near him that they did not go home when night came, but stayed all the next day, and the next one, too. When they started out they had not meant to stay so long, and they did not bring food enough with them to last all that time; so on that last day they were very hungry. Jesus saw this, and calling his disciples to him, said: "I am sorry to see these people so hungry. They cannot go home without food, for they have far to go and will faint by the way." But his disciples said: "What can we do? We have not enough food to satisfy all these hungry people." Jesus asked: "How many loaves have ye?" They said:

"There are seven, and a few little fishes." Jesus stood up before the people and told them all to sit down upon the ground. Then he took the seven loaves and the fishes and asked a blessing upon them. He broke them into pieces and gave them to his disciples to take around to the people. The people had enough to eat—every one of them, and although there were four thousand men there that day, and many women and little children besides, all had plenty; and when the scraps were gathered up, there was enough to fill seven baskets. Then Jesus sent all the people away to their homes.

3. TRANSITION.

Why did the people come to Jesus in the mountain? What did he do for them? How long did they stay there? What did Jesus do for them on the last day?

4. EXPRESSION OF THE LESSON STORY.

Sand-tray. This lesson will be a simple one to illustrate on the sand-tray. Let the children do as much of the work as possible. First of all the mountains and the country around must be molded. Then the children can bring the crowds of people from the surrounding country. These people can be represented by sticks or bits of paper or cardboard. Different pieces can represent the disciples, and a cross may stand for Jesus. When the story has been rehearsed the children can scatter the people back to their homes.

Picture

Jesus Feeding the Multitude.

Blackboard



Lesson 22

Jesus Healing a Leper (Matt. 8 : 1-4 ; Mark 1 : 40-45).

Golden Text : Lord, be thou my helper (Psa. 30 : 10).

Result Sought :

Consciousness of Jesus as a ready helper.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Did you ever know anybody who was so ill that he had to be kept in a room by himself, and no one allowed to go near him except a nurse ? What was the matter with him ?

With some such questions as these lead the children to see that there are some contagious diseases which have to be isolated.

2. LESSON STORY.

Our story to-day is about a man who was ill with that kind of a disease. It was leprosy. He could not live in the house with his wife and children,

for only those who had the same disease could come near him. He was not even allowed to stay in a house in the city, but had to go out into a country place and live there. From day to day a little lad, his son, carried him food. His mother would put it in a basket, and the boy would take it in his hand and go through the gate of the city up over the hill to the place where the lepers lived. Whenever he saw his father in the distance he would wave to him, then place the food upon the ground and turn back home.

One day he had some news to tell his father. When he had placed the food upon the ground he walked back a distance and then stopped. He waited until his father came near enough to hear him and he called : "Father, hast thou heard of the good man who is traveling about the country curing sick people?" The father answered : "No; who is he? What is his name?" And the boy called back : "His name is Jesus. I heard him telling the children stories, and I saw him curing sick men. Perhaps he can cure thee." "Where can I see him? I cannot go far," said the father. "He is in the city," answered the lad. "Ah, I cannot enter the city," cried the poor man. "But perhaps he will pass this way. If he comes, tell me, my son; perhaps he will cure me."

The next day the boy had more good news. He cried : "Father, Jesus is coming. He will pass this way to-morrow. Watch for him and ask him to cure thee, for he cureth every one who asketh."

The next morning the leper was up with the sun-

rise. He went to the top of the hill and watched. "I wonder if he will come," he kept thinking. "I wonder if he will cure me! Ah, if he would, how happy I would be! I could go back and live at home again." After a long time he saw a crowd of people coming. "Jesus must be there," he thought. As they came nearer he saw in the center of the crowd a tall man wearing a blue robe. Just then his little boy came running as near as he dared, and, pointing to the tall man, cried: "Father, Father, that is he. That is Jesus." Then the leper hurried down the hill. As he approached the crowd some one who knew he was a leper, cried out: "Away, away! Thou art a leper. Come not near." But the leper did not listen. He ran through the crowd until he came close to Jesus. Falling down before him he cried: "Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me well." When Jesus saw him he had pity. He was not afraid of the leprosy, and he put out his hand and touched the man, saying: "I will. Be thou cured." Then at once the disease left the leper and he was quite well.

I am sure his little boy was very happy when he saw his father strong and well; how glad he would be to take him back home to his mother and brothers and sisters. I am sure that family never forgot the kind Jesus who cured their father.

3. TRANSITION.

Why did the man in our story have to live outside of the city? How did he hear about Jesus? Who cured him?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Drawing. Let the children illustrate this story either on paper or blackboards.

Picture

Healing the Sick, by Schonherr.

Lesson 23

Jesus Healing a Blind Man (John 9: 1-41).

Golden Text: My help cometh from the Lord (Psa. 121: 2).

Result Sought :

A consciousness of Jesus' loving willingness to help.

Lesson Taught :**1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.**

Do you know any really blind people? How do you think it would feel to have your eyes shut all the time? Let us all shut our eyes and find out what it feels like to be blind.

2. LESSON STORY.

Once upon a time God sent a sweet baby boy to live in a home in Palestine. He was just like other boy babies except that he was blind. His little brown eyes were wide open, but there was no sight in them, and when he raised them toward his mother's face she knew they could not see her.

When he became old enough she taught him to walk and go about the house by himself, and by and by he even went out sometimes with the other little

boys, but he could not often join in their games, but had to sit by himself while the others ran and played. He could not see his little friends or the flowers or the birds. He could only tell what his toys were like by the touch and the sound of them ; he could only know his little kitten by feeling and stroking it. When he grew older he did not go to school, for he could not see to read or write. When he became a man he could not work for himself, so he became very poor and had to beg by the roadside.

One day, as he sat there, he heard a group of men talking as they came near. He listened. They were talking about him and his blind eyes. One of them, whom they called "Master," came near to him and stopped. He was saying to the others : "See ! I am going to make this poor blind man happy."

Hearing this the blind man started up. "Who art thou and how canst thou make me happy ?" The answer came, "I am Jesus, and I will cure your eyes so that thou mayest see." With those words he made some clay and put it upon the eyes of the blind man. "Now," he said to him, "go and wash in the pool of Siloam." The blind man almost thought he must be dreaming. But some one led him quickly to the pool and he bathed his eyes, and when he opened them and lifted his head he found that he could see. There were the hills and the trees and the flowers and the bright sunshine, and he could see them all. How happy he must have felt ! And when he went home he could see his mother's face, and his father and all his friends. They asked him who had cured

him, and he said, "A man called Jesus opened my eyes."

3. TRANSITION.

What was the matter with the baby boy that came to a home in Palestine? What did he have to do to get money when he grew to be a man? What happened one day as he was sitting begging? Who was it that opened the blind man's eyes?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Physical. Let all the children shut their eyes and keep them so for a moment. Next let half the children make believe that they are blind men, and let each of the others lead a blind man about the room. Then allow the ones who led to be blind men, and the others to be those who lead. When you have gathered them together again ask them how it feels to be able to see once more.

Picture

Jesus and the Man born Blind, by Bida.

Lesson 24

Jesus Raising the Widow's Son (Luke 7: 11-17).

Golden Text: My help cometh from the Lord (Psa. 121: 2).

Result Sought:

A consciousness of Jesus' loving willingness to help.

Suggestion to Teachers :

It is quite probable that many teachers will object to telling the following story to very little children. Little children are just as well without knowing about death. At first we hesitated to write the story, feeling that it was not good lesson material for the very little child. However, we have tried to tell the story in a very simple way, and have made the references to the death of the young man as abstract as possible.

We cannot help feeling that any teacher would be justified in omitting the story altogether and substituting another one in its place. If the lesson is taught, the teacher should make much of the kindness of Jesus to the weeping woman, and as little as possible of the funeral incident.

Lesson Taught :**1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.**

Did you ever cry? What made you cry? What did you do when you were hurt? What did mother do to make it better? Would you like me to tell you a story about a woman who cried and how some one helped her to dry her tears?

2. LESSON STORY.

Long, long ago, when Jesus was upon the earth, he and some of his friends were walking one day along the road near the gate of a city. As they drew near to the gate, they saw a crowd of people coming out of the city and along the road toward them. At first they did not know what it meant, but as they drew

nearer, they saw that it was a funeral procession. A boy had died. He was the only son of his mother, and she was a widow, and they were carrying him to the burying-place. Everybody was very sorry for this poor mother, for she loved her son very much. He was all she had in the world, and now that he was dead she felt very lonely and sad. Her friends were so sorry for her that they tried to comfort her, and all of them came with her that afternoon to the place of burial. They tried to comfort her in every way they could, but they could not bring her boy back to life again, and that was what she wanted.

As Jesus and his friends drew near, they saw the weeping woman, and Jesus pitied her. He said to himself: "I must try to comfort her." Then he stopped the procession, and speaking to the widow, said: "Do not weep. I will help you." She raised her head and sadly asked: "Can you give me back my boy?" Jesus quietly answered: "Yes, I can and will." Then all the people were astonished, and gazing at Jesus, said to one another: "He cannot bring the dead boy back to life again." But they all crowded nearer, curious to see what he would do.

Jesus came closer and, speaking to the dead boy, said: "Young man, I say unto thee, arise," and the boy arose and Jesus gave him back to his mother. How glad she must have been to have her son brought back to life. She threw her arms around his neck and kissed him many times. Then she dried her tears and all the people turned and went back to the city.

3. TRANSITION.

As Jesus and his friends were walking toward the gate of a city one day, what did they see? How did Jesus feel when he saw the poor woman weeping? How did he help her to dry her tears?

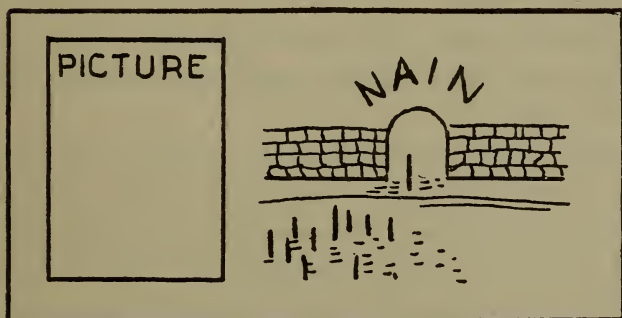
4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Tell the children to draw a picture of Jesus and the woman whom he helped.

Picture

Raising the Dead, by Hofmann.

Blackboard



JESUS OUR TEACHER

Golden Text for Lessons 25 to 28: Teach me thy way, O Lord (Psa. 27 : 11).

Lesson 25

Jesus' Example of Service (John 13 : 1-15).

Result Sought :

Development of a spirit of helpfulness.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Who helps your mother about the house ? What is she called ?

With a few questions like these get the children to talk about servants. Get them to tell you some of the helpful things that servants are always doing, and thus lead up to the lesson story. Prepare further for the lesson story by a brief talk with the children about Jesus. Have them tell you some of the things he did ; how he opened the blind man's eyes ; how he helped the fishermen ; how he fed the five thousand, and the four thousand ; how he helped the leper and brought back to life the widow's son who was dead. Be careful not to go into too much detail lest the children weary before you reach the story of the day.

2. LESSON STORY.

Once upon a time, long, long ago, thirteen men

met together in a room to take supper. As they came in they took off their odd little shoes, or sandals, for the day had been warm and the roads dry and dusty ; then they sat down at the table. In that country, when people were ready to begin supper, a servant came around with a big copper basin full of cool water, and bathed the feet of all those at the table.

This evening no servant was there to wait upon them. Some one would have to take the servant's place and bring the water and wash the feet. One of these men was kinder and more thoughtful than the others. You could tell that by his beautiful face. This was Jesus. The same Jesus who helped the sick people ; who had cured the leper and opened the blind man's eyes, and who told the boys and girls the beautiful stories. He arose from the table and poured some fresh cool water into the copper basin. Then taking a towel he began to wash the feet of his friends. When he came to Peter, the Peter we have often heard of, and knelt before him to wash his feet, Peter cried out, "Thou ! Master, dost thou wash my feet ?" He thought that Jesus, whom they all called "Master," should not take the place of a servant. But Jesus said, "Yes, Peter." And Peter cried, "Thou shalt never wash my feet." But Jesus answered, "If thou dost not permit me to wash thy feet, thou art not my friend." Then Peter kept quiet and allowed Jesus to bathe his feet and wipe them with the towel. When he had washed the feet of all of them he sat down again and they all had supper.

3. TRANSITION.

Why were the thirteen men gathered together?
 Who got up and washed the feet of all the rest?
 What did Peter say? What did Jesus say?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Drawing. Allow the children to express their ideas of the story by drawing.

Picture

Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet, by Brown.

Memory Gem

“Little deeds of love I'll do,
 Words I'll speak so kind and true.
 Thus I'll be the whole day through
 Like a sunbeam shining.”

Lesson 26

Jesus' Story of a Supper (Luke 14:16-24).

Golden Text: Teach me thy way, O Lord (Psa. 27:11).

Result Sought:

Appreciation of and love for Bible stories.

Lesson Taught:**1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.**

How many of you have ever been to a party?
 Tell me about it. Do you like to go to parties?

2. LESSON STORY.

When Jesus was on earth he told a great many stories. We have many of them in his book, the

Bible, but I am sure he told a good many more. The people loved to listen to his stories and used to crowd around him to hear them. One time he told some people a story about a party. I will tell it to you.

Once upon a time a man invited a great many people to a party. First of all he sent them the invitations. Then, when the party was all ready, he sent his servant to tell them that it was time to come. But when the servant came back the good man was very much surprised to hear that nobody was coming to the party after all. Everybody he had asked was too busy. One man said: "I have just bought a piece of ground and I must go and see after it. I pray thee have me excused." Said another: "I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I must go to prove them. I pray thee have me excused." Another said: "I have married a wife and I cannot come." And so it was with all of them. They were too busy to come to the party. The good man who had invited them was very much disappointed, for he had prepared everything very carefully and had a fine supper all ready for them. He did not want to see all his good things wasted.

Pretty soon an idea came to him. He called his servant and said to him: "Go out quickly into all the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in all the poor and the lame and blind people that thou canst find. I will give them a party and a good supper, instead of these others whom I invited." So the servant went and did as his master commanded. He brought people who had never been to a party

before and who were too poor to have fine suppers at home. He sent other servants to lead the blind people, who had to miss so many happy times because the light and the beautiful things of the earth were shut away from their eyes ; he sent donkeys and horses for the poor lame people who could not walk. Then he came again to his master and said : " Lord, all thou hast commanded is done, but still there is room for more." The master answered : " Then go into the streets outside the city and bring in the poor people who live there. Bring them until the house is quite filled." The servant did so, and that night there was a wonderful party in the great house. How happy they all were, and the good man was happy, too, when he saw the hungry being fed, and all the poor people made glad.

3. TRANSITION.

Why did the good man send invitations to his friends ? What did his servant have to tell him when he came back ? What did the good man tell his servant to do then ? What sort of a party did they have in the house that night ?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Give the children blocks and allow them to build the house in which the party was held.

Lesson 27

Jesus' Story of the Lost Sheep (Luke 15: 3-7).

Golden Text: Teach me thy way, O Lord (Psa. 27: 11).

Result Sought :

Appreciation of and love for Bible stories.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Begin by a talk with the children about getting lost. Ask if any child in the class was ever lost, and if so, have him tell the experience.

2. LESSON STORY.

One time Jesus told the people a story about a poor little lamb that got lost. This little lamb belonged to a large flock of sheep. He knew the shepherd very well, and loved him, and the shepherd knew him because his wool was so very white and curly. One day when he went over the hill to get some fresh green grass he lost his way, and when he started to look for his mother and the shepherd and the other sheep, he couldn't find them anywhere. He tried to find his way back to the sheepfold, but the farther he walked, the farther away he got from it. Soon he began to bleat and cry as loud as he could to try to make his mother hear, but no one could hear him, he was too far away. After a while it began to grow dark, and the rain came beating down. The little lamb could hardly see where to walk. He came at last to a thicket, and his curly wool caught on the thorns, which held him fast. He gave one sad little "baa-a-a," and lay down, cold and hungry and miserable.

It seemed to him that he had lain there a very long time thinking of his brothers and sisters, warm and safe in the sheepfold, when he heard a call. He

raised his head and listened. Pretty soon it came again, and it was nearer this time. The little lamb's heart began to beat fast as he said to himself: "That sounds like our good shepherd. Perhaps he has come to look for me." The call came again, and now the little lamb heard his own name. Sure enough, it was the good shepherd. He had come away over the hills in the dark and the rain to find the little lamb he loved. The little lamb called back. "Baa-a-a! baa-a-a!" and pretty soon he was safe in the good shepherd's arms. The shepherd cuddled him close against his warm woolly mantle. Then they went away back over the hills and down the long road to the sheepfold, and the little lamb was safe with his mother once more.

3. TRANSITION.

What happened to the little lamb one day? How did he get lost? How did he get back to the sheepfold?

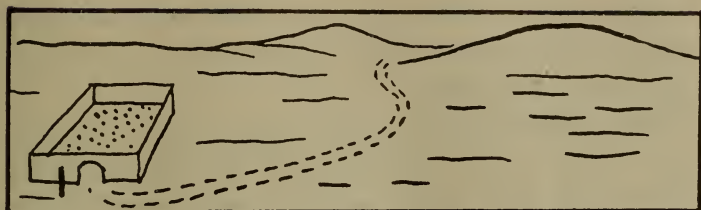
4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Sand-tray. Let the children help you to mold the hills and valleys for the pasturing country. Here and there sprinkle over it some powder from a piece of green chalk to show the grassy parts, and tiny stones to indicate the stony, wild parts. Build the sheepfold, place the sheep and the shepherd, and show how the little lamb wandered away and got lost. Also how the shepherd went after him and brought him safely back.

Picture

The Good Shepherd, by Schonherr.

Blackboard



Lesson 28

Jesus' Story of the Seed (Matt. 13 : 3-8).

Golden Text : Teach me thy way, O Lord (Psa. 27 : 11).

Result Sought :

Appreciation of and love for Bible stories.

Suggestion to Teachers :

The teaching in this lesson is certainly beyond the experience of a little child. The teacher will observe that we have told the story of the seed in the simplest manner possible, and have not particularly emphasized any special truth. We are sure this is the better way.

Lesson Taught :

I. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

How many of you have a garden? Did you ever plant some seeds? Tell me what a seed looks like.

With a few questions like these talk with the children about planting and gardening. Perhaps they will be able to tell of some experiences they have had in this line.

2 LESSON STORY.

Once upon a time Jesus told the boys and girls who were listening to him a story about some seeds that a farmer planted.

This farmer had a very big field and he wanted to grow some wheat in it, so that he and his family would have flour out of which to make bread in the winter. So he got out his plow, harnessed his oxen, and plowed and dug the earth up until it was all fresh and rich and ready to grow things. It took him a long time to do this, for the field was large and some places were very hard. Besides, there were many rocks and stones in the field, which kept the plow from working well. Indeed some places in the field were so hard that he could not plow at all. But one day he had the rest all ready. "Now," he said, "this is a fine day and I will sow the seed in the field." So he went into his barn and took a bag of seeds, so big that it was all he could do to carry it, and went over all the field scattering the seed everywhere. It was such a big field that he could not drop one seed at a time like we do in our gardens, but he took great handfuls and threw them here and there.

Now some of these seeds dropped on the road alongside of the field; others fell over on the stony part in the place where the ground was so hard that the plow would not go through it; and still some more fell among the thorn bushes; but most of the seed fell into the good plowed ground.

When the farmer had quite finished scattering the seed he went home, and the next day he went to

some other work and left the field for the heavenly Father to take care of. The heavenly Father sent the rain and the bright warm sun, and as the farmer passed by he said to himself: "The seed is growing. I am glad I planted it. We will have wheat to make into flour and bread for the winter."

But some of the seeds did not grow. The seeds that had fallen on the road could not get down into the ground to grow. The very first day they were there, some little blackbirds saw them and flew down and ate them up:

One day, after the other seeds had begun to grow, the farmer went to look at them. As he was passing by the stony places, he saw a lot of poor little scorched plants. They had done their best to grow, but the earth was not deep enough for them and the hot sun had withered them away. Near by he saw some more little plants trying to grow. They wanted to be straight and tall and bear wheat for the farmer, but they had fallen among the thorn bushes. The farmer was sorry, for he knew they would not be able to grow much more. But when he looked at the rest of the great field he felt glad and happy, for there were thousands and thousands of straight little stalks nodding gaily in the wind, and he knew that by and by there would be a great and good harvest.

3. TRANSITION.

Why did the farmer plow up his ground? Where did some of the seeds fall? Where did most of them fall? What happened to the little seeds that fell on the road? What happened to the seeds that fell in

the stony places? What happened to those that fell among the thorn bushes? What happened to those that fell into the good plowed ground?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Physical. Wouldn't it be nice to make believe that we are all little seeds? We can have a farmer to plant us and then we can all grow up into straight and tall little wheat plants with nodding heads. Choose a boy to be the farmer. Choose some raindrops and some sunbeams. All the rest can be seeds. Allow the farmer to send the seeds scattering over the ground until they drop into places which they find for themselves. Then let the farmer go away, and the raindrops and sunbeams come along and do their work. Then let the little seeds gradually grow up until they are fine, straight, tall young plants.

Picture

Parable of the Sower, by H. L. Roberts.

THE RISEN AND ASCENDED LORD

Golden Text: Behold, I make all things new (Rev. 21 : 5).

Lesson 29

New Life in Nature (Gen. 1 : 12 ; Song of Solomon 7 : 11=13 ; Psa. 65 : 9 ; 74 : 16 ; 104 : 14=17 ; 147 : 16=18).

Result Sought :

An interest in Nature's newly awakened life.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

What do you see coming up through the ground everywhere just now? Tell me all the things you have noticed. What do we call this beautiful time of the year?

2. LESSON STORY.

Our story to-day tells about some of the wonderful things that happened at just such a time as this.

One bright morning in spring the sunbeams came down to visit the apple tree in the orchard. The leaves were putting on their green dresses and the baby apple buds were just waking up. Some of them had on their dresses of pure white. They had a happy time, for the bees and the butterflies came to visit them, and the robins sang very cheerfully.

Mr. and Mrs. Robin had built a snug nest among the branches, and they took every care of the five eggs tucked away under Mrs. Robin's warm wings. One little cocoon cradle hung from a twig near the Robins' nest. Mrs. Robin said: "I hope my birdies will wake up before that butterfly creeps out of its cocoon cradle; they would be so glad to see it. Robin and I worked very busily to gather pieces of twigs and hay and hair to weave them into a safe nest. We had a happy time building the nest, and we shall have such a happy family in our little home when the birdies wake up."

Every day the wind came to sing among the apple tree branches, and the sunbeams shone very warm upon the little apple buds and the cocoon cradle and the birds' nest. They called again and again: "Spring has come; wake up! wake up!"

One morning Mrs. Robin heard a little cracking noise under her wing, and the eggs began to move. Then she heard a little voice say "peep!" very softly. What do you think had happened?

Yes, two little robins were waking up and cracking the egg shells and putting out two little heads. Four bright eyes looked about with wonder at the beautiful white apple blossoms and the sunshine. Very soon three more robins waked up, and six more bright eyes looked up, and there was a very happy mother robin, and they all cuddled under her warm feathers, while Mr. Robin flew about very briskly, gathering food for his family.

The little Robins watched the cocoon cradle rocking in the breeze, and often said: "Mama, what is

that little thing swinging up there?" Mother Robin said: "That is a baby's cradle. Watch, and you will see the baby wake up and crawl out of the cradle. That baby learns to fly very quickly. When your wings have grown stronger and your feathers have grown longer, I will teach you how to fly." That made the little Robins very glad, for they wanted to fly like Mother Robin.

As they watched the cocoon one morning, they saw a little head peep out, and then, what do you think they saw next? Yes, a beautiful butterfly with golden brown wings. They wanted to fly up to the butterfly, but they had not yet learned how to use their wings.

Mother Robin said: "To-morrow the big tree wants every one to come to a party. Birds and bees are coming to sing; butterflies are coming, and the violets, crocuses, buttercups and snowdrops that live down in the grass under the tree will be there, too, with their smiling faces. You may fly down and see them. Oh! we shall have a happy time."

The little birdies were so glad and talked so fast that they were not at all sleepy that night. They wanted the morning to come quickly. The next morning they were awake very early. The wind carried all the invitations, and when the guests were gathered at the big apple tree he played some soft music. Every one tried to make the others happy. The birdies sang and the flowers smiled. When the little Robins succeeded in using their wings as Mother Robin showed them how to do, they flew down

among the flowers and spent a very happy day and thought it a very beautiful world all about them. * *

(From *Half a Hundred Stories.*)

3. TRANSITION.

Where did Mrs. Robin have her very snug little nest? Who do you think it was that woke up the little Robins? Who did the birdies see waking up one morning? Tell me who came to the big tree's party? Who do you think woke them all up that spring?

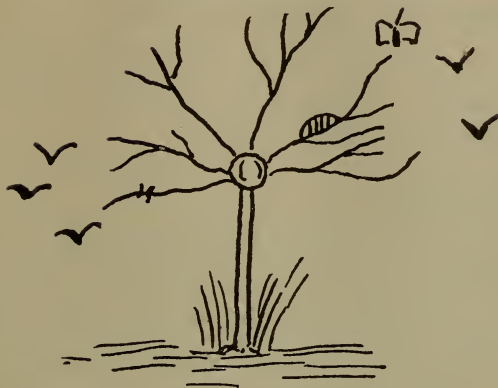
4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Physical. Choose a very tall person (preferably one of the teachers) to be the tall tree. Then choose Mr. and Mrs. Robin. Let them build their nest by the tall tree and pick five little baby birds to live in it with them. Choose the butterfly, and let it make believe hang in its cocoon cradle from one of the branches of the tree. Choose some sunbeams, some birds, bees, and butterflies, also some violets, crocuses, buttercups, snowdrops (one of each will do if there are not many children). Choose the wind to rock the cocoon cradle, bring the invitations and sing soft music at the party. The wind may then rock the cocoon cradle until the butterfly comes out while the baby birds watch him. The wind may bring the invitations, the baby birds may learn to fly, and finally all may gather together at the apple tree for the party.

Picture

Spring flowers growing or budding and blooming.

Blackboard



Memory Gem

“ The happy birds are singing, singing, singing,
Oh, let the children listen to their song ;
From sunny climes we’re winging, winging, winging,
From skies that glow and glisten all day long.
Oh children, lift your voice and sing
To Him who gives the wondrous Spring,
The springtime, the springtime,
The happy, happy springtime.”

(From *Sunday Songs for Little Singers*, published by the
Sunday School Union, 57 Ludgate Hill, London, price 1s.)

Lesson 30

Jesus’ New Life (Luke 24 : 1-9).

Golden Text. He is risen (Matt. 28 : 6).

Result Sought :

A deeper interest in Easter time and its meaning.

Lesson Taught :**1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.**

What day is it to-day? How often does Easter Sunday come? What is this I hold in my hand? What color is an Easter lily?

2. LESSON STORY.

Long, long ago, there lived upon the earth One whose life was as pure and beautiful as this lily I have in my hand. We have lately been hearing stories about him, beautiful stories about his beautiful life. This was Jesus, the same Jesus who took the children in his arms and said, "Suffer little children to come unto me."

But though he was loving and kind and always doing helpful things to people, some cruel men who did not know him very well, put him to death. After he was dead, some of his friends buried his body in a cave in a beautiful garden, and rolled a large stone up against the door to keep it safe. His friends were greatly troubled because Jesus was dead for they thought they would never see him alive again. But they need not have been so troubled. Shall I tell you why?

Early one morning some women friends of Jesus, Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary, and some others, arose and set out for the garden where Jesus was buried. They had spices and sweet-smelling perfume to take with them. As they went along one of them said: "Who will roll away the stone that is at the door?" For they knew the big stone was much too heavy for them to remove. While they were still

thinking of this they came to the garden. Then they saw that the stone was already rolled away. They were surprised and hurried to the door. Looking in, they found the cave quite empty; the body of Jesus was not there. Then they grew frightened and bowed their heads with sorrow and grief. But presently they saw a strange sight; two men in white garments all glistening with a golden light stood by them. Very early that morning, so early that there was scarcely any light, there had been a great earthquake, and in the midst of it one of these men, all clad in shining garments, had come from heaven and rolled away the great stone from the door.

As the women gazed at the two men with uplifted eyes full of wonder, the men spoke and said: "Be not afraid. Why seek ye Jesus? He is not here. He is risen from the dead. He is alive once more. Remember ye not how he said: 'The third day after I die I will rise again?'" Then the women remembered, and they were filled with joy to think that Jesus, their friend, was alive once more. They left the garden and hurried home to tell Peter and John and the others the wonderful news. The others could not believe at first what the women told them, it was all so wonderful. Peter and John, starting up, ran to the garden to see for themselves.

But that same evening they all knew that it was true, for Jesus came to the house where they were all gathered together and took supper with them. He told them some more of his wonderful stories, too. How glad they all were to have him back again. That is why we are always so happy when Easter

Sunday comes. We remember the time that Jesus arose from the dead. And that is also why we sing our Easter songs and have these beautiful Easter lilies.

3. TRANSITION.

Who were going one morning to the garden where kind friends had laid the body of Jesus? What did they find when they came to the garden? How did they feel when they found the cave empty? What did the shining men tell them? What did the women do next? Who came to see them that evening? How did they feel when Jesus was back amongst them again? Why do we have the beautiful lilies in Sunday-school to-day?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Drawing. Place the Easter lilies in such a position that they can be seen by all, and allow the children to draw them as they see them.

Picture

Women at the Sepulcher, by Bougereau.

Blackboard



Lesson 31

Jesus Going Back to Heaven (Luke 24 : 36-53).

Golden Text : In my Father's house are many mansions (John 14 : 2).

Result Sought :

An appreciation of the heavenly life.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Begin the lesson to-day by a talk with the children about visitors.

Did you ever have visitors at your house? Who were they? How long did they stay? Do you remember the day they went away? What did they say to you? What did they say to your mother?

2. LESSON STORY.

To-day we are going to hear how at last Jesus said "good-by" to his friends and went away to his home in heaven, to live with his heavenly Father.

His friends did not want him to leave them, but Jesus could not stay with them always. So one beautiful morning he met them to say "good-by." "Come, follow me," he said, and led them out of the city; out through the great gate and along the road, until they came to the hillside. Here they came to a path leading to the top of the hill. Up this path Jesus led them. They passed by the gardens and the vineyards, where the grapes were growing, by the olive and the date trees; on they went until they came to the top.

Then Jesus turned and they all gathered around him. He talked to them a while, telling them things he wanted them to do. And as they listened to his gentle voice, and watched his beautiful face, they said to themselves : " Ah, yes, we will indeed do these things that he tells us ; as long as we live we will do things to help other people as he has done."

Then Jesus said " good-by " to them, and lifting his hand, he looked around at them all and prayed the heavenly Father to bless all the dear friends that he was leaving. Even while he was praying, he was taken away from them up into the heavens. They watched him as he ascended higher and higher, until a white cloud came and hid him from sight. Then they saw him no more. They knew that Jesus had gone to his home in heaven.

While they were all still gazing upwards, two men all in pure white garments, with a wonderful light shining in their faces, came and stood with them and said : " Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye here gazing up into heaven ? Jesus has gone home to the heavenly Father, but ye need not be sorrowful, for he will come again some day." And they went away. Then the friends of Jesus turned and went back down the path and into the city. They were not sad now, since the men in the white robes had told them that Jesus would come again, so they went to the big church called the Temple and sang hymns, songs of praise, just as we do here in Sunday-school.

3. TRANSITION.

Where did Jesus take the people to say " good-

by " to them? How did he leave them? What did the two men in white robes tell them?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Sand-tray. Let the children help you build in one corner of the sand-tray the city gates, and then mold the road and the mountain. It will probably be better not to picture the action of the story, but to leave in the minds of the children simply a picture of the scene of the events.

Picture

Ascension, by Doré.

Lesson 32

Our New Life (Rev. 21 : 1-4, 21-27).

Golden Text : In my Father's house are many mansions (John 14 : 2).

Result Sought :

An appreciation of the heavenly home.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Begin the lesson by a talk with the children about houses and homes. Talk about the dolls' houses as homes for the dollies, and birds' nests as homes for the birds. From these lead to a talk about the homes the children live in.

As I was going along the street the other day, I met a little girl who was crying. She was cold, and said to me ; " I want to go home." Why did she

want to go home? Because mother was there, and there was a fire to warm her.

Bring out the points that we love our homes because they are warm and lighted, and there is plenty to eat and drink; because there are pictures on the walls, and picture-books and toys; because mother is there, and father and sisters and brothers, etc. At this stage in the lesson do not talk about the moral atmosphere, but rather the physical conditions in the home. It might be well to have a child who has been away from home and experienced homesickness relate his experience.

2. LESSON STORY.

Begin the story by a talk with the children about the home-life of Jesus. Perhaps they will be able to tell you some things about his birthplace in Bethlehem and the carpenter's home in Nazareth. After speaking of these different earthly homes, tell the children that Jesus' real home was in heaven, where his Father lived.

Last Sunday we learned how he left his friends and went up, up through the clouds, to his home with the dear Father God. But before Jesus went away from them, he told his friends that some day they would come and live with him in heaven, and that he was going to make ready a beautiful home for all his friends and all those who loved him, as we do. Would you like to know what this home is like?

John, one of Jesus' friends, had a vision one time, and in it he saw the beautiful heavenly home. He has told us all about it. He saw a beautiful city of

pure gold, polished so that it shone like clear glass. All about it were jasper walls, decorated with precious stones—sapphires, emeralds, and amethysts, and many others. In the walls were twelve wonderful gates, which always stood wide open. Each gate was made of one great white pearl, and beside it stood a shining angel. All the streets were of gold, as clear as glass, and in them were ever and ever so many little boys and girls playing. The light that shone upon the city was brighter than the sun ; there was never any darkness or night, for the light never faded away. Through the midst of the city flowed a clear, cool river.

But best of all, the dear Father God was living there. No one could be sad or sorrowful, for the Father wiped all the tears away and made every one happy. All the people were kind to one another, too, and tried to make one another happy. And all the boys and girls and the men and women gathered together in a great chorus and sang songs of praise to the dear Father God. Some of the angels in white robes waved palm branches and made most beautiful music upon their golden harps, all to show how happy they were, living there with the heavenly Father and Jesus.

Let us all bow our heads and ask the kind heavenly Father to help us do the right, so that we may be fit to live in the beautiful place that Jesus has made ready for us.

3. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Let us all stand up and sing a song of praise to the kind heavenly Father.

Here allow the children to sing three verses of :

“ Praise him, praise him,
All ye little children.”

Picture

Vision of St. John the Evangelist on the Isle of Patmos, by Dolci.

JESUS' NEARNESS TO US

Golden Text for Lessons 33 and 34 : I am with you alway (Matt. 28 : 20).

Lesson 33

Jesus' Promise of Nearness (John 14 : 18-23 ; 16 : 16-22 ; Matt. 28 : 20).

Result Sought :

A consciousness of the heavenly Father's nearness.

Suggestion to Teachers :

There is no lesson story in the lesson material suggested by the committee for to-day. We must supply one. Instead of choosing one from the Bible, we have chosen one of Maud Lindsay's beautiful mother stories, "The King's Birthday." The story is based upon the following motto :

"Let the child feel Christ is near him ;
By your faith will grow his own ;
Death nor danger will affright him
If he never feels alone."

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Begin the lesson by a few review questions on Jesus' story of the lost sheep.

2. LESSON STORY.

Little Carl and his mother came home from the

country one sweet summer day, because it was the king's birthday, and all the city was to be glad and gay, and the king would ride on his fine gray horse for the people to see.

Little Carl had gathered a very fine bunch of flowers to throw before the king. He had marigolds and pinks and pansies, and they had all grown in his mother's garden.

This was a great day for little boy Carl, and before he started from home he told everything good-by, the brindle calf and the mooley cow, and the sheep and little white lambs.

"Good-by!" he said; "I am going to see the king."

The way was long, but Carl did not complain. He trudged bravely on by his mother's side, holding the flowers tightly in his little hand, and looking out of his great blue eyes for the king, in case the king should ride out to meet them.

Every now and then Carl wished for his father, who was obliged to work in the fields all day, and who had been up and away before Carl was awake. Carl thought of the fine sights his father was missing, especially when they came to the city, where the flags were flying from every steeple and housetop and window.

There were as many people in the city as there were birds in the country; and when the drums beat, the crowd rushed forward, and everybody called at once: "The king! the king! Long live the king!"

Carl's mother lifted him up in her arms that he

might see. The king rode slowly along on his great gray horse, with all his fine ladies and gentlemen behind him ; and little Carl threw his flowers with the rest and waved his cap in his hand.

He felt sorry for his flowers after he had thrown them, because they were trampled under the horses' feet ; and the king didn't care ; and after that he felt very tired, and his little hot hand slipped from his mother's and he was carried away in the crowd.

He thought that his mother would surely come. But there were only strange faces about him, and he was such a little lad that nobody noticed him ; and at last he was left behind, all alone.

He was very miserable, and the tears rolled down his cheeks ; but he remembered that it was the king's birthday, and that everybody must be glad, so he wiped the tears away as he trudged along.

There were wonderful houses along the street, with great gardens in front ; and Carl thought that they must belong to the king, but he did not want to go in. They were all too fine for him. But at last he reached one which stood off by itself and had a tall, tall steeple and great doors, through which hundreds of people were coming.

"Perhaps my mama is there," thought little Carl. After he had watched all the people come out, and had not seen her, he went up the white marble steps and through the doors, and found himself all alone in a very beautiful place.

The roof of the house was held up by great strong pillars, and the floor had as many patterns on it as his mother's patchwork ; and on every side he saw

windows—beautiful windows like picture-books—and when he had seen one he wanted to see another, as you do when you are looking at picture-books.

Some of the windows had jewels and crowns upon them; some had sheaves of lilies; and others had lovely faces and men with harps; and at last he came to one great window which was different from the rest and lovelier than any of them.

The other windows were like picture-books, but this one was like home; for there were sheep in it and flowers, and a dear, gentle Man, with a loving face, and he had a lamb in his arms.

When little Carl looked at this window, he crept very close under it, and, laying his head on his arm, sobbed himself to sleep.

While he slept, the sunbeams came through the window and made bright circles round his head, and the white doves that lived in the church tower flew through an open window to look at him.

“It is good to live in the church tower,” cooed the white doves to each other, “for the bells are up there; and then we can fly down here and see the dear Christ’s face. See! here is one of his little ones!”

“Coo, coo,” said the white doves softly; “we cannot speak so loudly as the bells, nor make ourselves heard so far; but we can fly where we please, and they must stay always up there.”

All this cooing did not waken little boy Carl, for he was dreaming a beautiful dream about a king who had a face like the Good Man in the window, and who was carrying Carl in his arms instead of a

lamb, and was taking him to his mother; and just as he dreamed that they reached her, Carl woke up, for he heard somebody talking in the church.

He lay still and listened, for this seemed part of the dream. Somebody was talking about him, and the words were very plain to Carl:

"Dear Father in Heaven, I have lost my little boy. I am like Mary seeking for the Christ-child. For his sake, give me my little child."

Carl knew that voice, and in an instant he ran out crying:

"Mother! mother! here am I!"

And in all the joy of the king's birthday there was no joy so great as theirs.

3. TRANSITION.

Why did Carl and his mother leave the country one day and come to the city? What happened to him after the king had gone by? What kind of a house did he go into? What was the picture in the best window of all? Who do you think the gentle Man in the picture was? What did Carl do when he came to this window? What was Carl's dream about? When he woke up, what did he hear? Whose voice was it? Who took care of Carl and brought his mother back to him?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Let the children express their ideas of this story by drawing.

Picture

The Good Shepherd, by Plockhörst.

Memory Gem

GOD IS NEAR

“In the dark and silent night,
Little child, you need not fear;
Just as much as in the light
God is near—God is near!”

Lesson 34

Jesus' Nearness to Paul (Acts 18: 1-11; 2 Tim.
4: 16-18).

Golden Text: I am with you alway (Matt. 28: 20).

Result Sought:

A consciousness of the heavenly Father's nearness.

Suggestion to Teachers:

It seems to us most difficult to confine ourselves in this lesson to the story recommended by the committee. We do not want to teach theology to the little child, but rather to give him a consciousness of God's nearness to him. Whether that nearness be in the person of the Father, Son or Holy Spirit matters little. The teacher will do well to keep clear of such distinctions with her very little people. We have, therefore, felt quite free to choose for our lesson material from other scenes in the life of St. Paul.

Lesson Taught:**1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.**

Did you ever feel frightened? What was it that made you feel afraid?

2. LESSON STORY.

Our story to-day is about a man who was not afraid, although he was in great danger. This man's name was Paul. He traveled about from place to place telling people stories about Jesus ; telling them how kind and good he was. He tried, too, to help people and be kind to them as Jesus had done.

One time some wicked men thought they would try and frighten Paul, so they told him that if he did not stop talking about Jesus they would put him into prison. But Paul did not mind them in the least, he just went on telling about Jesus and was not afraid. Shall I tell you why ? He knew that the kind Father, God, was near him and would take care of him.

One time something happened which might have frightened him very much indeed. He was on board a ship taking a journey across a great sea, when a very big storm came up. The ship was tossed about and rocked up and down. The waves dashed high and sometimes came down and washed right over the decks. The people who were on board thought that all would surely be drowned in the sea. But Paul was not afraid.

One night when it was very dark, the sailors thought they must be coming near the land, and they were afraid that the ship might strike against the rocks. So they put out the big anchors and stopped the ship for the night.

Then Paul said to the sailors and to the rest of the people : " Come now and eat something." They had eaten nothing for a long time, for the storm had

made them too anxious and frightened to eat. So Paul asked a blessing upon the food and then he told them not to be afraid, for the heavenly Father was near, and would take care of them. After that they all felt better.

When the daylight began to come, they could see the land, so they cast off the anchors and put up the sails to go ashore. But they did not know the way to go. Very soon the ship ran upon a bank of sand, and they could not get it off. Then the waves came so hard and fast that they broke the ship, and the people could stay in it no longer. The officer in charge told all those who could swim to jump into the water. This they did, and the rest of the people took boards and pieces broken off from the ship and they, too, got into the water. Then the waves carried them along and washed them ashore, until everybody was quite safe.

The people on the shore were very kind to the shipwrecked sailors. The weather was cold and rainy, so they made a big fire for them. Paul gathered a large bundle of sticks to put upon the fire. As he placed them there, a poisonous viper, which had been awakened by the warm fire from its sleep, crawled out and fastened itself upon Paul's hand. Paul shook it off, and everybody looked at him, and expected to see him fall ill from the bite. But he was not harmed, for the heavenly Father took care of him still.

3. TRANSITION.

How did the wicked men try to frighten Paul when

they heard him telling about Jesus? Why was not Paul frightened? What happened one time when he went on a journey across the sea? How did the people feel? How did Paul feel? Why? How did it all end? What happened to Paul when they were on the shore?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Let the children draw their ideas of the lesson story.

Picture

Paul's Shipwreck.

OBEDIENCE

Golden Text for Lessons 35 and 36 : We must obey God (Acts 5 : 29).

Lesson 35

Gideon and the Three Hundred (Judg. 7 : 12-21).

Result Sought :

Readiness to obey.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Begin a talk with the children about large families. What is the largest family you know? How many children in it? etc., etc.

2. LESSON STORY.

Long ago, in a land called Palestine, there lived very happily together a large family of people called the children of Israel. They had houses and farms and gardens, and sheep and cattle. The boys and girls were very happy because they had plenty to eat and plenty to wear, and could play and run upon the hillsides.

But by and by some strangers came riding over the river into this country. There were very many of them and they rode upon tall, graceful camels. One could tell that they were rich and powerful, for the camels on which they rode were decorated with silver collars and long chains. Striped blankets with

tassels were spread upon their backs. The tall men with dark faces who led the rest wore purple garments trimmed with gold. Gold rings were on their fingers and gold bracelets on their arms. They stopped in the green valley by the river and put up their tents. There were so many tents that the children of Israel, looking down upon them from the hills, said to one another: "There are as many of these fierce-looking strangers as there are grasshoppers in the grass."

The strangers did not soon go away; they stayed and fought the children of Israel and robbed them in the night-time, carrying away their cows and sheep and corn until there was almost nothing left. At last, for fear that the strangers would kill them, the fathers and mothers had to take their boys and girls and leave their homes to go and hide in caves and holes in the hills.

They did not know how to drive the strangers out of the land. When they found they could not help themselves, they prayed to the Father in heaven, and asked him to send them some one who would help them. So one day as a tall and strong young man was working in his home in the country, trying to get some food for his father and himself, he noticed a stranger sitting under a big oak tree near by. This man did not look fierce and cruel like the other strangers, and when he spoke the young man knew that he was an angel from the Father in heaven. The angel said: "Go, Gideon, God sendeth thee to save the children of Israel from the strangers." At first Gideon could hardly believe that the angel

meant him, for he was quite a young man, although so tall and brave. But he obeyed God's angel and went forth, sounding a great trumpet to call the young men to come and help him. And he sent messengers into all the country beating drums to call the people.

Gideon told them as they came how an angel had come with a message from the heavenly Father telling him to go forth and drive away the strangers. A great many men, from all the country round, came to Gideon, and when they saw what a brave man he was, they were glad that God had sent him to be their leader. When Gideon counted all the men he said to himself: "There are too many people here." For the heavenly Father told him that they could do better with fewer. So he told them: "If any are fearful or afraid, let them now go back to their homes," and a good many men left and went back home. Gideon counted all that were left, and said that there were still too many. So he led them all to the river and told them to drink. Some of the men dipped the water up with their hands; others kneeled down and drank right from the river. There were three hundred of those who dipped up the water with their hands, and these Gideon put by themselves. "These men," he said, "will go down with me to fight the strangers, for so the Lord hath told me to choose."

All the others went home, but Gideon with the three hundred men stayed upon the hillside, and as they looked down they could see the tents and the soldiers of the strangers in the green valley.

When the night came, Gideon gave each man a trumpet and a pitcher and a torch ; he did not give them swords or guns, he knew that they could frighten away the strangers without these. The lighted torches they put inside of the pitchers, so that the lights should not be seen. Then Gideon told them to follow him, and to do just as he did. They crept down the hillside until they came to the tents of the strangers. There it was all quiet, for nearly every one was asleep. Softly they stole along until they had made a ring around the tents. When all was ready, Gideon blew a long, loud blast on his trumpet. Then all the three hundred men blew their trumpets as loud as they could. Such a noise as they made ! Then they all broke their pitchers with a great crash and the bright torches inside flared up. They waved the flaming lights high over their heads and all shouted together : " The sword of the Lord and of Gideon ! " Again they blew their trumpets, and again, and again. The strangers could not tell what had happened. They were blinded by the flaming torches, and with loud cries they all fled from the place. Gideon and his men chased them and drove them away across the river and up into the hills. The strangers were so frightened and beaten that they never again came back to trouble the children of Israel.

3. TRANSITION.

What did the strangers do when they came into the land of the children of Israel ? What did the children of Israel have to do ? When they found

they could not help themselves what did they do? What did the brave man Gideon do when the Father in heaven told him to go and help drive away the strangers? How did they drive them away?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

A good many physical exercises are suggested by this lesson story. The teacher can pick out the most suitable ones, such as marching, blowing of the trumpets, beating the drums, dipping up the water with the hand, drinking while kneeling, breaking the pitchers, waving the torches, shouting the battle cry, "The sword of the Lord and of Gideon," etc. While the children march around they might sing a marching song.

Picture

Gideon puts the Midianites to Flight, by Doré.

Blackboard



Memory Gem

"Now they listen and obey,
Following where he leads the way;
Heavenly Father, may we be
Thus obedient unto Thee."

Lesson 36

Peter and John Obeying God (Acts 5 : 17-32).

Golden Text : We must obey God (Acts 5 : 29).

Result Sought :

Readiness to obey.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Did you ever see a picture of an angel ? What was he like ? What was he doing ?

2. LESSON STORY.

We are going to have a story to-day about an angel who helped two men do what they were told to do.

Peter and John, Jesus' friends, were staying one time in the city with the great church and the high wall. They were living there among the poor people, for their Father in heaven had told them to help the poor people and those who were sick and sad and lame. And so they obeyed him and went about the streets and said kind words to those who were unhappy ; they touched the ears of deaf people and sent them home glad because they could hear their friends speaking and the birds singing, and they could hear the beautiful music that other people loved so much. They laid their hands upon the eyes of the blind people, and opened them, so that when they looked up they could see the blue sky and the trees and streets and houses and, best of all, their brothers and sisters and friends. They sometimes went to the Beautiful Gate of the temple where

they had helped the lame man of whom we learned, and cured the poor beggars who had to sit there because they could do nothing for themselves. All who were ill they helped, until many persons loved the names of Peter and John, and would bring all their friends who were sick out into the streets that they might be cured as the good men passed along. And people in other cities heard about the kind men and brought their sick friends to the great city with the high wall, for Peter and John to cure them also.

Now some of the great men in the city heard about these things that Peter and John were doing, and became jealous and sent soldiers who took Peter and John, and binding their hands led them to prison. But Peter and John knew that the Father in heaven would take care of them, and sure enough at night there came an angel from God who opened the prison doors and led them out through the gate until they were under the beautiful starry sky once more. It was all done so quietly that nobody knew anything about it. He told them not to obey the men who were trying to make them stop doing kind things. "Go," he said, "stand in the great church. Talk to the people—tell them about Jesus and help them all you can." Peter and John hurried home through the quiet streets, and the next morning bright and early they obeyed the angel, and went forth again among the poor people who loved them. As they were talking in the great church, some soldiers came to take them away. For the great men were very much surprised and angry when they found that Peter and John had escaped from prison.

They were just wondering how they could find them when a man came running in to tell them that they were in the great church. The soldiers brought Peter and John to the big house where all the great men were sitting together. The tall man with white hair and blue robes said to them, "Did we not command that ye should not do these things or speak in the great church? Why do ye disobey us?" Then Peter spokè, "The Father in heaven hath told us to do these things," he said. "We obey him."

Then most of the great men were very angry and would have killed Peter and John, but one of them, who was very wise, stood up and said no, it would be better just to punish them and let them go. And so Peter and John were punished, but just as soon as they were free once more they went about curing people and talking to them and helping them just as they had done before.

3. TRANSITION.

What did Peter and John do in the city of the great church? What did the great men do when they heard about it? How long did they stay in prison? What did the angel tell them to do? What did they do as soon as they came out? What happened next? What did Peter and John say to the great men? When they were free, what did they immediately do?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Let the children express their ideas of the story by drawing.

Picture

The Apostles Preaching, by Doré.

HONESTY

Golden Text for Lessons 37 to 39: Let us walk honestly (Rom. 13 : 13).

Lesson 37

The Honest Workmen (2 Chron. 24 : 4, 8-14 ;
2 Kings 12 : 11-15).

Result Sought :

Faithfulness.

Suggestions to Teachers :

We cannot help feeling that a great mistake has been made in introducing this theme into this course of lessons. These little people are so much under the influence of suggestion that it is surely unwise for us to even suggest the idea of dishonesty. Not only is the topic unwisely chosen, but the material for all three lessons, 37, 38 and 39, is most unsuitable.

In attempting to teach honesty from the lesson suggested for No. 37, even to adults, one would have to put into the context that which is not really taught. Faithfulness is there, but certainly not honesty. The story of Gehazi teaches *dishonesty*, but such a story is not good material to present to the little people. It is true we teach by comparisons, but the story of Gehazi is altogether too suggestive of wrong doing.

The story of the honest treasurers in Ezra is one

that is so absolutely beyond the child's plane of experience that we are sure it also should be omitted. We have, therefore, introduced three beautiful stories, each of which will suggest faithfulness or diligence, although not necessarily honesty. We are sure that these stories will present to the child mind better image forming material for character building than those which have been omitted.

Lesson Taught :**1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.**

How many have ever seen a busy bee ? What does it look like ? What does it do all day long ? Why does it gather honey ?

2. LESSON STORY.

We have a story to-day about a Bee, but this little fellow was not a busy Bee, for it did not like to work. It lived in a beehive at the lower end of an old garden.

It belonged to the Working Bees. It was always wishing it had been born a Drone, for the Drones have nothing to do all day but fly out with the Queen Bee when she wishes to take the air. But this discontented Bee was not a Drone, and so the others would not allow it to be idle. Its work was to gather the material for making wax, and this it did not like at all. This Bee had some nice brushes on its legs for sweeping the pollen off the flowers it visited, and two nice baskets on its hind legs for storing it away, and it could fly all over the garden to the flowers it liked best, but the truth was, it was too lazy to exert

itself much, and it would fly about so slowly its neighbors would empty twice as many baskets as it did.

It was often scolded for its idleness, and often another bee, finding it moping on a rosebush, would drive it to work.

As it was not busy, of course it was miserable and unhappy.

One day this idle Bee made up its mind that it would not work at all, so it flew off by itself until it came to a beautiful Nasturtium which had a long tube of honey. In a most polite tone it said: My dear Flower, as I see that your door is wide open, I hope you will allow me to come in and rest and spend the day with you ; I am so tired."

"Rest," said the Nasturtium, "why the day has only begun—I have no place for all the bees that come. Please leave my door free."

"Hard-hearted Flower," hummed the Bee, "I'll try this soft white Lily."

More graciously than before it spoke—

"Dear Lily, you have a kind heart, will you give me a place to rest for the day? "

"But you ought to be working," said the Lily, "everybody has some work to do—I will give you some of my best yellow pollen to carry home, but that is all I can do for you."

"No; thank you," said the Bee, "these cultivated flowers have such high notions. Now that little Red Clover in the grass has the best honey of any of them, and she will surely befriend a poor, tired Bee."

It flew straight into the heart of the Clover without so much as saying, "By your leave."

After some time the Clover began to be angry and said—

"What are you doing here so long, lazy Bee? I am not able to fill my honey-jar while you are here; if you want any honey fly off with it." And she shook her head so violently that the idle Bee had to fly away for safety.

It crawled on the ground to a melon patch but the gardener's hose drove it away.

"There does not seem to be any place for me," sighed the Bee—"I'll crawl under the plank and rest a minute."

It did not hear the gardener coming along the plank, and the man did not know that there was a bee under the plank. He put his foot on it, and the Bee suddenly found itself in a dark, lonely hole in the ground.

It buzzed round and round, vainly trying to get out, but could find no opening anywhere, and did not know as it would ever see the birds and flowers again.

It thought of the bright warm sunshine, of the merry breezes and beautiful flowers; and the poor Bee thought within itself, "How gladly would I now fill my honey-baskets and work all the day with my brothers and sisters," and strange to say, at that moment the gardener lifted the heavy plank away—and the Bee flew swiftly to the garden, anxious to see how many times it could fill its baskets with honey before sunset.

3. TRANSITION.

Why did not the little Bee want to work ? What did it say to the Nasturtium one day ? What did the Nasturtium say ? Who did it go to next ? What did the Lily say ? Who did it then go to ? What did the Clover tell it ? What happened after that ? How did it feel under the plank ? When the Bee escaped from the plank what did it fly away to do ?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Physical. Choose the gardener and let him plant some flowers ; for example, roses, nasturtiums, lilies and clover. Let all the rest be busy bees. Allow them to make their hive and go from flower to flower gaily gathering honey and taking it back to the hive.

Picture

Bees Gathering Honey.

“ Oh, where is the busy, busy little maid,
To help us work to-day ?
Oh, where is the happy, happy little maid,
To join us in our play ?

“ I see her stand at my right hand ;
She is so bright and steady.
To clean and sweep, the house to keep,
For work or play she's ready.”

Lesson 38

The Dishonest Servant (2 Kings 5 : 20-27).

Golden Text : Let us walk honestly (Rom. 13 : 13).

Result Sought :

Faithfulness.

Suggestions to Teachers :

See Lesson 37.

Lesson Taught :**1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.**

Begin the lesson to-day by a review of the story "Not a Busy Bee," and from it lead up to this lesson story.

2. LESSON STORY.

There was once a little girl named Amy Stewart, who liked to play all day in the garden among the flowers and birds. She said they talked to her.

One day her mother said: "You are old enough now, Amy, to do a little work, and you must begin early to be industrious."

"O mama, I do not like to work; may I not go in the woods and play before I begin to work?"

"As I have nothing ready for you to do just now, you may go for a little while," said her mother.

So Amy ran out of doors. A pretty gray squirrel ran across her path, and she called to him, saying: "Dear squirrel, you have nothing to do but play and eat nuts, have you?"

"Yes," said Mr. Squirrel, "I have a large family to support, and I am busy laying up nuts for the winter; so I cannot stop to play with you."

Just then a bee came buzzing by. Amy said: "Little bee, do you have any work to do?"

"It seems to me I have no time for anything but work, getting honey and making the honeycomb."

Amy now saw an ant carrying a crumb of bread.

"Is not that crumb too heavy for you? I wish you would drop it and play with me."

"It is heavy, but I am too glad to get it not to be willing to carry it; but I will stop long enough to tell you about a lazy day we once had. Our house was destroyed, and I was too lazy to help rebuild it, and I said to my brothers: 'Let us go and travel; perhaps we can find a house ready-made; perhaps the butterflies will play with us.' We traveled a long way, but we found no ready-made house, and at last we were obliged to build one for ourselves. Since then we have been contented to do all the work that we find necessary." The ant then picked up the crumb of bread and hurried away.

Amy sat down on a stone and thought: "It seems to me all creatures have some work to do, and they seem to like it; but I do not believe flowers have anything to do." So she walked up to a red poppy, and said: "Beautiful Red Poppy, do flowers work?"

"Of course we do," said the Poppy. "I have to take great care to gather all the red rays the good sun sends down to me, and I must keep them in silken petals for you to use; and the green rays must be untangled and held by my glossy leaves; and my roots must drink water, and my flowers must watch the days not to let the seed-time pass by,—ah, my child, I assure you we are a busy family, and that is why we are so happy."

Amy walked slowly homeward, and said to her mother: "The squirrels, bees, ants, and even the flowers, have something to do. I am the only idle one; please give me some work to do."

Then her mother gave her a plate of crumbs and told her to go out and feed the chickens. After that she did many things to help her mother and became a happier little girl than ever before.

3. TRANSITION.

What did Amy like to do all day long? What did her mother say to her one day? Who did Amy meet as soon as she went into the woods that day? What did she ask the Gray Squirrel? What did the Squirrel answer? Who did she meet next? What did he say to her? What little fellow did she see after that? What was he carrying? What did he tell her? What did the Red Poppy tell her? When Amy got home what did she ask her mother?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Physical. Choose the squirrel and his family, a number of busy bees, some ants, and some flowers. Choose a teacher to be a tree and let Mr. Squirrel make his home at the foot of it. Then have him and his family go to work gathering nuts. Have the busy bees buzz around from flower to flower and back to their hive in the corner. Allow the ants to crawl busily to and fro, and have some of the flowers busy growing straight and tall in the sun.

Picture

Little Girl Feeding Chickens.

Lesson 39

The Honest Treasurers (Ezra 8: 21-34).

Golden Text : Let us walk honestly (Rom. 13: 13).

Result Sought :

Faithfulness.

Suggestion to Teachers :

See Lesson 37.

Lesson Taught :**1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.**

Would you like me to tell you a beautiful story ?

2. LESSON STORY.

Long, long ago there lived, in a kingdom far away, five knights who were so good and so wise that each one was known by a name that meant something beautiful.

The first knight was called Sir Brian the Brave. He had killed the great lion that came out of the forest to frighten the women and children ; had slain a dragon, and had saved a princess from a burning castle ; for he was afraid of nothing under the sun.

The second knight was Gerald the Glad, who was so happy himself that he made everybody around him happy, too ; for his sweet smile and cheery words were so comforting that none could be sad or cross or angry when he was near.

Sir Kenneth the Kind was the third knight, and he won his name by his tender heart. Even the creatures of the wood knew and loved him, for he never hurt anything that God had made.

The fourth knight had a face as beautiful as his name, and he was called Percival the Pure. He thought beautiful thoughts, said beautiful words, and did beautiful deeds, for he kept his whole life as

lovely as a garden full of flowers without a single weed.

Tristram the True was the last knight, and he was leader of them all.

The king of the country trusted these five knights ; and one morning in the early spring-time he called them to him and said :

“My trusty knights, I am growing old, and I long to see in my kingdom many knights like you to take care of my people ; and so I will send you through all my kingdom to choose for me a little boy who may live at my court and learn from you those things which a knight must know. Only a good child can be chosen. A good child is worth more than a kingdom. And when you have found him, bring him, if he will come willingly, to me, and I shall be happy in my old age.”

Now the knights were well pleased with the words of the king, and at the first peep of day they were ready for their journey, and rode down the king's highway with waving plumes and shining shields.

No sooner had they started on their journey than the news spread abroad over the country, and many fathers and mothers who were anxious for the favor of the king sent messengers to invite the knights to visit them.

The parents' messages were so full of praises of their children that the knights scarcely knew where to go. Some of the parents said that their sons were beautiful ; some said theirs were smart ; but as the knights cared nothing for a child who was not good, they did not hurry to see these children.

On the second day, however, as they rode along, they met a company of men in very fine clothes who bowed down before them, and while the knights drew rein in astonishment a little man stepped in front of the others to speak to them.

He was a fat little man with a fat little voice, and he told the knights that he had come to invite them to the castle of the Baron Borribald, whose son, Florimond, was the most wonderful child in the world.

"Oh ! there is nothing he cannot do," cried the fat man whose name was Puff. "You must hear him talk ! You must see him walk !"

So the knights followed him, and when they had reached the castle Florimond ran to meet them. He was a merry little fellow, with long fair curls and rosy cheeks, and when he saw the fine horses he clapped his hands with delight. The baron and baroness, too, were well pleased with their visitors and made a feast in their honor, but early the next morning the knights were startled by a most awful sound which seemed to come from the hall below.

"Boo-hoo-hoo-hoo !" It sounded something like the howling of a dog, but as they listened it grew louder and louder until it sounded like the roaring of a lion.

The knights seized their swords and rushed down to see what was the matter, and there, in the middle of the hall, stood Florimond, his cheeks puffed up and his eyes swollen—and right out of his open mouth came that terrible noise, "Boo-hoo-hoo-hoo !"

His mama and papa were begging him to be quiet.

The cook had run up with a pie, and the nurse with a toy, but Florimond only opened his mouth and screamed the louder, because the rain was coming down when he wanted to play out of doors!

Then the knights saw that they were not wanted, and they hurried upstairs to prepare for their journey.

* * * The knights did not care to stay with a child who was not good.

"Let each take his own way," said Tristram the True, "and to-morrow we will meet under this same tree and tell what we have seen, for the time draws near when we must return to the king."

Then they bade each other farewell, and each rode away, except Sir Tristram, who lingered long under the oak-tree; for he was the leader, and had many things to think about.

Just as the sun was red in the west, he saw a little boy coming towards him, with a bundle of sticks on his back.

"Greeting to you, little boy," said he.

"Greeting to you, fair sir," said the boy, looking up with eager eyes at the knight on his splendid horse, that stood so still when the knight bade it.

"What is your name?" asked the knight.

"My name is little Gauvain," replied the child.

"And can you prove a trusty guide, little Gauvain, and lead me to a pleasant place where I may rest to-night?" asked the knight.

"Ay, that I can," Gauvain answered gladly, his whole face lighting up with pleasure; but he added quickly, "I can, if you will wait until I carry my sticks to Grannie Slowsteps, and bring her water from

the spring ; for I promised to be there before the setting of the sun."

Now little Gauvain wanted to help the good knight so much that he was sorry to say this ; but Sir Tristram told him to run, and promised to wait patiently until his return ; and before many moments Gauvain was back, bounding like a fawn through the wood, to lead the way to his own home.

When they came there the little dog ran out to meet them, and the cat rubbed up against Gauvain, and the mother called from the kitchen :

"Is that my sunbeam coming home to roost?" which made Gauvain and the knight both laugh.

Then the mother came out in haste to welcome the stranger ; and she treated him with honor, giving him the best place at the table and the hottest cakes.

She and little Gauvain lived all alone, for the father had gone to the wars when Gauvain was a baby, and had died fighting for the king.

She had cows, horses, pigs, hens, chickens, and a dog and a cat, and one treasure greater than a kingdom, for she had a good child in her house.

Sir Tristram found this out very soon, for little Gauvain ran when he was called, remembered the cat and dog when he had eaten his own supper, and went to bed when he was told, without fretting, although the knight was telling of lions and bears and battles, and everything that little boys like to hear about.

Sir Tristram was so glad of this that he could scarcely wait for the time to come when he should meet his comrades under the oak-tree.

"I have found a child whom you must see," he said, as soon as they came together.

"And so have I," cried Gerald the Glad.

"And I," exclaimed Kenneth the Kind.

"And I," said Brian the Brave.

"And I," said Percival the Pure ; and they looked at each other in astonishment.

"I do not know the child's name," continued Gerald the Glad ; "but as I was riding in the forest I heard some one singing the merriest song. And when I looked through the trees I saw a little boy bending under a heavy burden. I hastened to help him, but when I reached the spot he was gone. I should like to hear him sing again."

"I rode by the highway," said Sir Brian the Brave, "and I came suddenly upon a crowd of great rough fellows who were trying to torment a small black dog ; and just as I saw them, a little boy ran up, as brave as a knight, and took the dog in his arms, and covered it with his coat. The rest ran away when I rode up ; but the child stayed, and told me his name—Gauvain."

"Why !" exclaimed Kenneth the Kind, "he is the boy who brings wood and water for Grannie Slowsteps. I tarried all night at her cottage and she told me of his kindness."

"I saw a lad at the spring near by," said Percival the Pure. "He hurried to fill his bucket, and some rude clown muddied the water as the child reached down ; but he spoke no angry words and waited patiently till the water was clear again. I should like to find his home and see him there."

Now, Sir Tristram had waited to hear them all ; but when Sir Percival had finished, he arose and cried :

“ Come, and I will carry you to the child ! ” And when the knights followed him, he led them to the home where little Gauvain was working with his mother, as happy as a lark and as gentle as a dove.

It was noonday, and the sun was shining brightly on the shields of the knights, and their plumes were waving in the breeze ; and when they reached the gate Sir Tristram blew a loud blast on a silver trumpet.

Then all the hens began to cackle, and the dog began to bark, and the horse began to neigh, and the pigs began to grunt, for they knew that it was a great day. And little Gauvain and his mother ran out to see what the matter was.

When the knights saw Gauvain they looked at each other, and every one cried out : “ He is the child ! ” And Tristram the True said to the mother :

“ Greeting to you ! The king, our wise ruler, has sent us here to see your good child ; for a good child is more precious than a kingdom. And the king offers him his love and favor if you will let him ride with us to live at the king's court and learn to be a knight. ”

Little Gauvain and his mother were greatly astonished that such a thing had happened ; for it seemed very wonderful and beautiful that the king should send messengers to little Gauvain. After the knights had repeated it, though, they understood ; and little Gauvain ran to his mother and put his arms around

her ; for he knew that if he went with the knights he must leave her, and the mother knew that if she let him go she must live without him.

The rooster up on the fence crowed a very loud "Cock-a-doodle-doo !" to let everybody know he belonged to Gauvain, and a little chick that had lost its mother cried "Peep ! peep !" And when the mother heard this she answered the knights, and said :

"I cannot spare my good child from my home. The king's love is precious, but I love my child more than the whole world, and he is dearer to me than a thousand kingdoms."

Little Gauvain was so glad when he heard her answer that he looked again at the knights with a smiling face, and waved his hand to them as they rode away. All day and all night they rode, and it was the peep of day when they came to the king's highway. Then they rode slowly, for they were sad because of their news ; but the king rejoiced when he heard it, for he said : "Such a child, with such a mother, will grow into a knight at home."

The king's words were true, for when the king was an old, old man, Gauvain rode to his court and was knighted.

Gauvain had a beautiful name of his own then, for he was called "Gauvain the Good," and he was brave, happy, kind, pure and true. And he was beloved by all the people in the world, but most of all by his mother.

3. TRANSITION.

Why did the knights set out to search over the

land? Why did they not choose Florimond? How did they decide to search after that? What did Sir Tristram the True find? Where did Gauvain take him? Why did he like Gauvain? When he told the other knights that he had found a good child, what did they say? When they told Gauvain's mother that the king had sent them for Gauvain, what did she say? What happened when Gauvain became a man?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Drawing. If there is time let the children express their ideas of the story by drawing; or

Physical. Allow the children to make believe they are knights on horseback riding in search of a good child.

Picture

Knights on Horseback.

TRUTHFULNESS

Golden Text for Lessons 40 to 42: My mouth shall speak truth (Prov. 8 : 7).

Lesson 40

Samuel Telling the Truth (1 Sam. 3 : 1-21).

Result Sought :

Truthfulness.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Prepare for the lesson story by a review of Lesson 16, "Samuel Helping in the House of God."

Did you ever wake up in the middle of the night? What wakened you? How did you feel? What did you do?

2. LESSON STORY.

One night after the red sun had gone down over the hills and the old man Eli had already gone to his bed, little Samuel closed the heavy doors of the great Tabernacle where the ark was kept behind the thick curtain of purple and red and gold. The ark was a great golden box with two cherubim stretching their wings wide above it as though to take care of the precious things that were inside. Samuel always

felt as though they took care of him, too. So he went happily away to his bed in the tent near by and soon went fast asleep.

But in the middle of the still night, he was awakened by a voice calling him, "Samuel, Samuel." As he started up and rubbed his eyes he thought: "Ah, my master Eli has need of me," and as he ran across the dark room he answered: "Here am I." But Eli said to him: "I did not call thee, my son. Go and lie down again." Samuel went back, but he did not go to sleep. Suddenly the voice came again: "Samuel, Samuel," and again Samuel hurried to Eli, saying: "Here am I, for thou didst call me." But Eli said: "No, I called not, my son." A second time little Samuel went back to his bed, and almost as he lay down, once more the call came: "Samuel, Samuel." "It must be my master Eli," he thought, and once more he ran across the dark tent to Eli's side. "My master, thou didst call me," he said. Then Eli knew that it must be the heavenly Father's voice, and he told Samuel to answer if the call came again.

Samuel went back and waited. Presently, soft and clear, came the call: "Samuel, Samuel." And Samuel answered with bowed head: "Speak, Lord, for thy servant heareth." Then the Father in heaven told Samuel something that was going to happen to the old man Eli.

When Samuel lay down he could not sleep for thinking of it, for he knew that it would make the old man very sad. He wondered and thought until the morning light began to peep under the tent. Then

he rose and opened wide the great doors of the Tabernacle. Eli heard him and called, "Samuel, my son." When Samuel reached his bed he said: "Tell me what is the thing the heavenly Father has said to thee?" Samuel could not bear to tell him, for he knew it would make him unhappy, and, bending his head, he said nothing. Eli reached forth his trembling hand and laid it on Samuel's head. "I pray thee, hide it not from me," he said. "Tell me all, every whit, of that which the Lord hath said unto thee." Then Samuel could hesitate no longer. He knew that he must tell the truth even though it made the old man sorry. So he told him all about it.

3. TRANSITION.

What did Samuel hear one night after he had lain down to sleep? What did he do? What did Eli say? What happened when he went back to bed? What did Eli at last tell Samuel to do? About whom did the Father in heaven speak to Samuel? What did Eli ask Samuel in the morning? Why did not Samuel want to answer? What did he do about it?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Give the children a number of blocks and let them build under your direction the light wooden sides of the Tabernacle. The building should be done well toward the back of the tables so that a vacant place may be left immediately in front of each child. Next give each child a square piece of paper large enough to make a tent covering for this foundation. Allow the children to fold these in half and place them upon

the blocks so that the tent-like roof will be formed, and the Tabernacle completed.

Picture

Samuel, by Reynolds.

Memory Gem

“The little black crickets are singing a song,
With voices low and clear,
They say : ‘ You must always do your best,
Do your best, little children dear.’ ”

Lesson 41

Daniel Telling the Truth (Dan. 5 : 13-30).

Golden Text : My mouth shall speak truth (Prov. 8 : 7).

Result Sought :

Truthfulness.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Begin by a review talk with the children on previous stories of Daniel and his goodness and bravery.

2. LESSON STORY.

In the time of this same brave Prince Daniel there lived a king who was wild and wicked. His long,

odd name was Belshazzar. I wonder if you can pronounce it?

One time this king made a great feast and invited to it a thousand of his lords. For days before the time came the great palace was being prepared. Dark-skinned slaves ran here and there with gorgeous hangings and silver vessels. They brought the golden bowls which the king's father had robbed from the great church in Jerusalem, to hold the red wine that was kept in the cool cellars below.

When all was ready the king had his slaves dress him in his richest purple robe; he put chains about his neck and a golden crown with sparkling jewels upon his dark hair. When the lords arrived they, too, were dressed in gorgeous clothes: scarlet and blue and yellow, with many jewels. They came and bowed before the king, and kissed his hand. Then all sat down to the feast. The great tables were piled with all sorts of dainties; and the golden bowls filled with red wine were passed around. Musicians played and songs were sung to false gods made out of gold and silver and iron and stone.

Suddenly the king laid down his dish of wine and leaning forward, stared at the wall in front of him. The lords around him turned, wondering what it was he looked at. And there, upon the white wall above the big golden candlestick, they saw some words written in large black letters. They tried to read them, but could not. Even the king could not read them. He arose from his seat and cried in a loud voice to the slaves: "Bring in the wise men that they may read and tell me the meaning of this writing on

the wall." When the wise men came he told them: "Whoever shall read this writing, shall be clothed in a gorgeous robe of scarlet and shall have a chain of gold to put about his neck." So the wise men tried to read it, but they were not able; not one of them could tell what the words meant.

Then the king was troubled. While he was wondering what to do, the queen, who had heard of the wonderful writing on the wall, came into the room. She was very beautiful in her white and purple robe and little shining crown. When she found that the wise men had not been able to read the writing and that the king was troubled, she stood before him and said: "O king, live forever! Be not troubled, for there is a man in thy kingdom who is wiser than any one else. His name is Daniel. He will read this writing for thee."

The king sent for Daniel immediately. When he came in his white linen robe and bent his knee before the king, Belshazzar said to him: "Prince Daniel, if thou canst read this writing on the wall, I will give thee a robe of scarlet and a golden chain to put about thy neck." Daniel raised his head and looked at the big black letters: "*Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin*" was what he read. He knew at once what it meant, but he knew, too, that the king would not like to hear it, for it told a sad story. It said that Belshazzar, the wild king, was to be punished; that he could not any longer be king. Daniel did not want to tell this to the king. He did not want to make him angry. But he was brave, and so he said: "O king, keep thy gifts or give them to some one else; I do not

want them, but I will tell thee the truth." So he read the black words to the king and told him that he would have to be punished because he had been so wild and wicked. This must have made Belshazzar very angry and frightened, but he did not blame Daniel for telling him the truth and he was good enough to keep his word, for he commanded the slaves to clothe Daniel in a gorgeous scarlet robe and to put a gold chain about his neck.

3. TRANSITION.

In the midst of the great feast, what did the king Belshazzar see? Why did he have the wise men come in? What did the wise men do about it? Who did the king then send for? How did Daniel feel when he saw what was written? What did he do about it?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Let the children express their ideas of this lesson by free drawing.

Picture

The Feast of Belshazzar.

Lesson 42

Truthful at All Times (John 1:43-51; Eph. 4:25; Psa. 15:1-2).

Golden Text: My mouth shall speak truth (Prov. 8:7).

Result Sought:

Beautiful living.

Suggestion to Teachers :

In the story material for to-day we find nothing which will touch the life of a little child. As in the lessons on honesty, we hesitate to portray anything that touches upon lying or deceit, so we have chosen a simple story of a pure, bright life.

Lesson Taught :**1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.**

Listen to the story I have to tell you.

2. LESSON STORY.

There once lived a little maiden to whom God had given a wonderful light, which made her whole life bright.

When she was a wee baby it shone on her face in a beautiful smile, and her mother cried :

“See! the angels have been kissing her!” And when she grew older it lighted up her eyes like sunshine and gleamed on her forehead like a star.

All lovely things that loved light, loved her. The soft-cooing pigeons came at her call. The roses climbed up to her windows to peep at her, and the birds of the air, and the butterflies, that looked like enchanted sunbeams, would circle about her head.

Her father was king of a country, and though she was not so tall as the tall white lily in the garden, or the weeds that grew outside, she had servants to wait on her and grant her every wish as if she were a queen.

She was dearer to her father and mother than all else they possessed, and there was no happier king or queen or little maiden in any kingdom of the world,

till one sad day, when the king's enemies came upon them like a whirlwind and changed their joy to sorrow.

Their palace was seized, the servants were scattered, and the king and queen were carried away to a dark prison-house, where they sat and wept for their little daughter, for they knew not where she was.

No one knew but the old nurse, who had nursed the king himself. She had carried the child away, unnoticed amid the noise and strife, and set her in safety outside the palace walls.

"Fly, precious one!" she cried, as she left her there. "Fly! for the enemy is upon us!" and the little maiden started out in the world alone.

She knew not where to go; so she wandered away through the fields and waste places, where nobody lived and only the grasshoppers seemed glad. But she was not afraid,—no! not even when she came to a great forest, at evening; for she carried her light with her.

'Tis true that once she thought she saw a threatening giant waiting by the dusky path; but, when her light shone on it, it was only a pine-tree, stretching out its friendly arms; and she laughed so merrily that all the woods laughed too.

"Who are you? Who are you?" asked an owl, blinking its eyes at the brightness of her face; and a little rabbit, startled by the sound, sprang from its hiding-place in the bushes, and fell trembling at her feet.

"Alas!" it panted as she bent in pity to offer help. "Alas! the hunters with their dogs and guns

pursue me! But you flee, too! How can you help me?" But the child took the tiny creature in her arms and held it close; and when the dogs rushed through the tanglewood, they saw the light that lighted up her eyes like sunshine and gleamed on her forehead like a star, and came no further.

Then deeper into the great forest she went, bearing the rabbit still; and the wild beasts heard her footsteps, and waited for her coming.

"Hush!" said the fox, "she is mine; for I will lead her from the path into the tanglewood!"

"Nay, she is mine!" howled the wolf, "for I will follow on her footsteps!" * * *

So they quarreled among themselves, for they were beasts and knew no better; and as they snarled and growled and howled, the maiden walked in among them; and when the light which made her lovely fell upon them, they ran and hid themselves in the depths of the forest, and the child passed on in safety.

The rabbit still slept peacefully on her breast. At last she, too, grew weary, and lay down to sleep on the leaves and moss; and the birds of the forest watched her and sang to her, and nothing harmed her all the night.

In the morning a party of horsemen rode through the forest, looking behind each bush and tree as if they sought something very precious.

The forest glowed with splendor then, for the sun had come in all its glory to scatter darkness and wake up the world. The darkest dells and caves and lonely paths lost their horror in the morning

light, and there were violets blooming in the shadows of the pines.

The leaves glistened, the flowers lifted their heads, and everything was glad but the horsemen, whose faces were full of gloom because their hearts were sad.

They did not speak or smile as they rode on their search ; and their leader was the saddest of them all, though he wore a golden crown that sparkled with many jewels.

They followed each winding path through the forest, till at last they reached the spot where the little maiden lay.

The rabbit waked up at the sound of their coming, but the child slept till a loud cry of gladness awakened her and she found herself in her father's arms.

In the night-time the king's brave soldiers had driven his enemies from his land and opened the doors of the prison-house in which he and the queen lay, and the king had ridden with them in haste to find his darling child, who was worth his crown and his kingdom.

The sight of her face was the sunshine to lighten their hearts, and they sent the glad news far and near, with blast of trumpet and shouts of joy.

But in all their great happiness the child did not forget the rabbit, and she said to it : " Come with me and I will take care of you, for my father the king is here." But the rabbit thanked her and wanted to go home.

" My babies are waiting," it said, " and I have my work to do in the world. I pray you let me go."

So the child kissed it and bade it go ; and she, too, went to her own dear home. There she grew lovelier every day, for the light grew with her ! * * * And she lived happily all the days of her life.

(Maud Lindsay, in *Mother Stories*.)

3. TRANSITION.

What was it that made the cooing pigeons and the roses and the butterflies love the little girl so well ? When she went into the forest what did the light do for her ?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Let the children express their ideas of the story by free drawing.

SELF=CONTROL

Golden Text for Lessons 43 and 44 : Be patient toward all (1 Thess. 5 : 14).

Lesson 43

David's Self=Control (1 Sam. 26 : 1-25).

Result Sought :

Self-control.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Begin by a review of the lesson on Jonathan the peacemaker.

2. LESSON STORY.

When the quarrel between King Saul and David the shepherd boy was made up, they were all happy for a while. But when the king found how much all the people loved the young man with the bright eyes, who was so brave and strong in battle, he was jealous of him. He was ill, too, and although David played his softest and sweetest melodies upon his harp, and did all he could to amuse him, he began to dislike him more than ever.

At last David could stay near the king no longer. So, for fear that the king would kill him, he ran away one night and hid himself in the woods and caves and hills. Then the king was angry and called his soldiers and followed after David. They

searched for him everywhere. One time they came to sleep in the very same rocky cave in which David was hiding, only they did not find it out until David had stolen out and stood high up on the rocks where the soldiers could not catch him. At last David, with some of his strong brave friends, went to hide in a lonely place near the sea where the wild goats lived. Not far away was a great rocky hill. One day a man said that he saw some soldiers on the hill. David thought they might belong to King Saul, so he sent some young men to creep quietly up the hill and find out if the unkind king were really there. When they came back they said : "Yes, King Saul is there with three thousand soldiers." Hearing this David arose and took his spear. Starting forward he cried : "Come, we will go and see for ourselves."

In the moonlight they climbed the rocky hill and looked down the other side. Sure enough, King Saul and his men were encamped at the foot. The soldiers sleeping upon their cloaks by the carts made a great ring around the tent of the king. David spoke in a low voice to two men who stood by him : "Who will go down with me to the camp there ?" he asked. One of them named Abishai said : "I will go down with thee." So they started down over the wild rocks and gorges. As they came near the camp they stopped to listen. Not a sound could they hear. All were fast asleep. "I am going to the tent of the king," whispered David. "And I will follow," answered Abishai. They took the sandals from their feet and crept inside the great ring. No one woke as they passed. Soon they came to the tent of the king.

Outside of the tent lay Abner, the captain of all the soldiers. Very quietly they raised the goat skin door of the tent and went in. There lay the tall king in his thick cloak. His spear was stuck into the ground by his head and a jar of water was at his head. As they looked into the king's dark, stern face Abishai said to David: "See! thine enemy is before thee. Let me kill him now." But although David knew that Saul wished to kill him, and would be likely to start again to search for him when the morning came, yet he pitied the unhappy king, and laying his hand on Abishai's spear, whispered: "No, we must not kill him. Take the spear that is at his head and the jar of water, and let us go." So they took the spear and the water jar, but left the king safe. Back they crept with noiseless feet, past all the soldiers who were as fast asleep as ever. They did not stop until they had climbed across the gorges and up the rocky hill once more. Then David stood up tall and straight in the moonlight, and shouted in a loud voice to the captain of the soldiers: "Abner, son of Ner, awake!" The voice rang so loud among the rocks that not only Abner, but also King Saul, awoke. David held up the shining spear and the water jar, and told how he had been below in the camp. When King Saul saw the spear and water jar in David's hand he knew that David had spared his life. And he was ashamed of himself, and sorry that he had followed after David to kill him.

"Is this thy voice, my son David?" he called. And David answered: "It is my voice, my lord. O king, why hast thou followed after me? What

have I done that thou shouldst want to kill me?" Then Saul said: "I was wrong, my son. I am sorry. I will not do thee harm, for thou hast spared my life."

When one of Saul's soldiers had come up to fetch the king's spear and the water jar, David turned back with his friends, and King Saul and all his soldiers went back home.

3. TRANSITION.

Why did David have to go and hide? Where did he go? What did King Saul do? What did David do when he found that the king was over the hill? Who went down with him to the camp? What did they find down there? What did Abishai want David to do? What did David answer him? When Saul heard how David had spared his life what did he say?

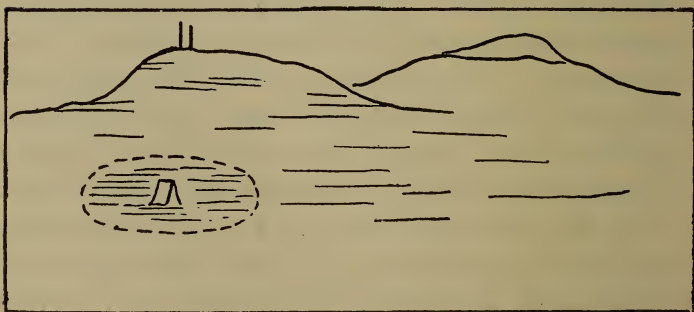
4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Allow the children to express themselves by freely drawing the story.

Picture

David Sparing Saul's Life.

Blackboard



Memory Gem

“A little bit of patience often makes the sunshine come,
And a little bit of love makes a very happy home.”

Lesson 44

Jesus Bearing Wrong (Luke 9:51-56).

Golden Text: Be patient toward all (1 Thess. 5:14).

Result Sought:

Self-control.

Lesson Taught:

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Did you ever go for a very long walk? Tell me about it.

2. LESSON STORY.

Once upon a time Jesus set out upon a long journey. He was going to the city with the great church. But on the way he meant to visit some other cities. He thought that in them he might find some poor sick people who needed help. Some friends of his went with him, and as they all journeyed along over the hills, past the cities and villages, many people who had heard of Jesus and wanted to see him and hear him tell beautiful stories, joined them, until there was a great crowd of people.

After they had traveled a long way, they came towards a very pleasant little village surrounded by palm-trees and beautiful gardens where doves cooed and bulbuls sang. It was called the Fountain of Gardens. Jesus sent ahead two of his friends, James and John, to tell the people who lived there that he

and his friends were coming to stay with them a little while. But the people in that village could not have known how good and kind Jesus was. They only knew they did not like the people who lived in the country from which Jesus and his friends came. So they told the disciples they did not want them to stay there. "But," said John, "Jesus himself is with us. He wants to do good. He will cure your sick people, and open the eyes of those among you who are blind." But the people would not listen.

Then James and John were very angry and turning, hurried back to meet Jesus and the others on the road. They told their story and cried to Jesus: "Lord, command us to punish them. Let us call down lightning to burn up the Fountain of Gardens!"

Jesus looked sadly at James and John. He was sorry that his friends should want to be unkind to the village people, even though they had been unkind to them. He said: "Ye know not what ye say. I have not come to harm men, but to help them. Let us go further on." So they left the pretty little village with its palm-trees and gardens and passed on to another village.

3. TRANSITION.

Where did Jesus set out to go? What did he intend to do on the way? When they came near the Fountain of Gardens what did he do? What did the people who lived there say to James and John? How did James and John feel when they heard that? What did they ask Jesus to let them do? What did Jesus say?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Sand-tray. Have the children help you mold the road through the country and place the village with its palm-trees and gardens, using little green twigs, leaves, or powdered green chalk to make it appear pleasant. Use the little sticks to represent the different companies of people and move them about according to the incidents of the story.

Picture

Head of Christ, by Hofmann.

PRAYER

Golden Text for Lessons 45 to 47: Lord, teach us to pray (Luke 11 : 1).

Lesson 45

Praying for Help (Neh. 1 : 1-11).

Result Sought :

Prayerfulness.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Did you ever see a very big house ? Where was the biggest house you ever saw ? Who lived in it ?

2. LESSON STORY.

Once upon a time in a beautiful city, with lilies growing all around it, and a wide river running through it, there was a high stone palace. In this palace lived a great king with a long name—Artaxerxes, and with him lived a man named Nehemiah. Nehemiah's home was far away in Jerusalem, the city with the great church and the high walls. But although he was a stranger, Artaxerxes, the king, loved him, for he was quick and strong and brave and had true brown eyes. So he had made him his cupbearer. It was Nehemiah's duty to wait upon the king, clad in a robe of purple and gold. To him it was given to squeeze the red juice from the grapes into a golden cup and carry it to the king upon a shining gold tray.

Now, although Nehemiah was happy in the great palace, he often thought of his dear home and the friends who lived there, and wished that some one would come and tell him about them. One winter day his wish was granted, for a brother of his and some other men from the dear home came to the palace. But they had sad news. They said: "Alas! there are enemies around the city; they have broken down the high stone walls and have burnt the great strong gates with fire! The people are poor and in great trouble." Then Nehemiah was sorrowful. He covered his face with his hands and wept. When his friends were gone he laid aside his jewels and his purple robe, and put on sad colored garments. He mourned and wept, not only for one but for many days, and he wondered how he might help his friends. And as he thought about it, he knew that the best way would be to ask the Father in heaven to help him. So he fell upon his knees and prayed to him: "Dear Father in heaven, help thy children." Soon after that Nehemiah put on his purple robe and went in to wait upon the king. The queen was with the king. She looked sweet and gracious and smiled as Nehemiah knelt to hand the cup of wine. But Nehemiah only bowed low and looked sorrowful. Then the king asked him: "Why art thou sad? What troubleth thee?" Nehemiah answered: "O king, I am sad because the great city at my home is spoiled; the walls are burned down with fire and my friends are in trouble." Then the Father in heaven put it into the kind heart of King Artaxerxes to help Nehemiah. The king said: "Tell me how I can

help thee." So Nehemiah said: "If it please thee, O king, let me go home and help my friends to build again the walls and the gates, and drive away the enemies." Artaxerxes said he might go, and then Nehemiah knew that the Father in heaven had heard his prayer.

3. TRANSITION.

Where did Nehemiah live? What did he do in the king's palace? What made him sad one day? Who did he ask to help him? How did the Father in heaven help him?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Blocks. Let us build the strong city walls as Nehemiah and his friends did.

Give the children blocks and let them build very simply the walls and some of the gates of the city. They should do this all together at your dictation. When the walls are finished, they might place here and there inside the walls single blocks to represent buildings, and a simple structure of three or four blocks to represent the great church.

Picture

Nehemiah Praying.

Memory Gem

"Lord, when we have not any light
And mothers are asleep,
Then through the stillness of the night
Thy little children keep."

Lesson 46

Praying for Others (1 Sam. 12 : 19-24 ; Matt. 5 : 44 ; Jas. 5 : 13-16).

Golden Text : Lord, teach us to pray (Luke 11 : 1).

Result Sought :

Prayerfulness.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Begin the lesson to-day by a brief review of Lessons 16 and 40, namely : Samuel Helping in the House of God, and Samuel Telling the Truth.

2. LESSON STORY.

Our story to-day tells us more about Samuel who helped Eli in the Tabernacle. But instead of being a little boy with dark curling hair, Samuel was now an old man. His hair was white, and his long gray beard reached almost to his girdle. Samuel had grown to be a very wise old man, so wise that whenever any of the people were in trouble they came to him, and he helped them. They all called him a prophet.

One time he called all the people to come from their homes to a big meeting out of doors under the trees. From all parts they came, some on camels, some on donkeys, and some on foot. Nearly all of them brought their tents of black goats' hair, and when they came near the meeting-place they stopped and put them up. By and by there were more tents than you could count. Then all the people gathered together beside a big circle of stones and Samuel, in his brown mantle, came out upon the side of the hill,

and spoke to them in a deep, ringing voice. While he was speaking the sky began to grow so dark that they could scarcely see. Then came a great storm, the lightning flashed, the thunder pealed, and the rain came down so hard and fast that the people were frightened and ran to their tents. But the thunder roared and the rain poured down more and more. The people were more frightened than ever. They cried to Samuel: "Ask the Father in heaven to take care of us." So Samuel drew his mantle tightly around him and kneeling, prayed to the Father in heaven. And the dear loving God answered the prayer and took care of them all in the storm and the rain.

3. TRANSITION.

Why did Samuel call all the people together one day? What happened while Samuel was speaking to them? What did the people do? What did Samuel do for them?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Drawing. Let the children express their ideas of the story by free drawing.

Picture

Samuel as an Old Man.

Lesson 47

When and Where to Pray (Matt. 6: 6; Dan. 6: 10; Acts 3: 1; Gen. 24: 10-14; Neh. 2: 4; Jas. 5: 13; Matt. 8: 23-46).

Golden Text: Lord, teach us to pray (Luke 11: 1).

Result Sought :

Prayerfulness.

Suggestions to Teachers :

We feel that the best way to teach children the lesson of the day is through the means of a story. The following simple story is on the plane of the child's experience and will be more effective than many more formal lessons on "When and Where to Pray."

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Prepare for the story of to-day by a very brief review of the last two lessons.

2. LESSON STORY.

One evening just as the sun was saying a last good-night to the fleecy clouds, a little white rabbit crept to the mouth of his burrow and looked out. He shivered a little bit and said to himself: "Dear me, it is getting dark, and there is no sign of mother yet. I wonder why she doesn't come home. It is so lonely down there in the dark." He cocked his ears forward to listen, and opened his pink eyes wide, but he could not hear or see anything of his mother. Just then he heard a sweet voice singing: "Chick-a-dee-dee-dee, chick-a-dee-dee-dee." He peeped around the tree and saw sitting in the old birch-tree quite near him a dear little chick-a-dee.

"Good evening, little chick-a-dee," he called. "Isn't it pretty near your bedtime?" The chick-a-

dee turned his head, and when he spied the white rabbit in the bushes below, he hopped on to a lower branch and chirped: "Why, good evening, Bunny Rabbit. Yes, it is nearly my bedtime. I was just singing a good-night song to the dear father, God. But why are you out so late, Bunny Rabbit?" "I came up to look for my mother. She has been away ever since dinner-time. It is fearfully dark down in the burrow, and I don't like to stay there all alone. Do you think she will be home soon, chick-a-dee?"

"Oh, you mustn't be afraid, Bunny. Why, don't you know that the dear father, God, will take care of you? Once when I was a little wee bird, much too small to fly, my mother had to stay away a whole night. My brother and I were left quite alone, but we were not afraid. We just asked the dear God to take care of us, and then cuddled down together in our snug nest and slept until mother came home. Just you creep down into your warm burrow and speak to the dear God; he will take care of you until your mother comes back. Now, I must say good-night, but I will come and see you in the morning." And with a last "chick-a-dee-dee," he flew away to his cosy nest.

The little white rabbit took his advice and crept back into the burrow. It was nice and warm in the little fur-lined room where he slept, but it seemed so strange to be there in the dark without his mother that his little heart beat fast. "Dear father, God," he said, "please take care of my mother, and bring her back home, and take care of me, too." Then he curled up in one corner and shut his pink eyes.

Soon he was fast asleep. Early in the morning before ever it was light his mother's voice awoke him. "Were you lonesome, little Bunny?" she asked. "Yes, mother, at first I was, but I spoke to the father, God, and he took care of me. Listen, mother, I hear the chick-a-dee singing." "Yes," said his mother, "the sun must be coming up, for as soon as it peeps above the hills the chick-a-dee always sings to thank the Father in heaven for taking care of him all the night. Let us go out and say good morning to him."

3. TRANSITION.

Why did the little white rabbit come out of his burrow when the sun was going down? Who did he speak to? What did the chick-a-dee tell him? What did he do about it?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Let the children express their ideas of this story by free drawing.

Picture

In Gethsemane, by Hofmann.

FORGIVENESS

Golden Text for Lessons 48 and 49 : Forgiving each other (Eph. 4 : 32).

Lesson 48

Stephen Forgiving His Enemies (Acts 7 : 54-60).

Result Sought :

A spirit of patient forgiveness.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

Who is the biggest and strongest man you know? What does he look like?

2. LESSON STORY.

In the olden days after Jesus had said good-by to his friends upon earth and gone to prepare a beautiful home in heaven, there lived a young man named Stephen. Everybody loved Stephen. He was straight and tall with arms so strong that they seemed made to help those who were lame, or carry those who were too ill to walk. He had beautiful brown hair that curled thickly over his head, and his deep blue eyes were so kind that they seemed to say to those who were in trouble : "I love you. Can I help you?" Many people who were sad came to him to be comforted ; those who were sick came to him, too, for, like Peter and John, he could heal them.

Sometimes he talked to the people in the churches

and told them how to do beautiful things and when he was speaking, people sat quietly and listened; even the tiny boys and girls who could not understand what he said, loved to watch his kind face. Many of them knew him quite well, for he loved the little children and would often pat them on the head, or take them on his knee and tell them stories or, better still, give them a ride on his great strong shoulders.

One day as he was talking, some men who did not believe the things he said, tried to quarrel with him. But Stephen would not quarrel. The men were angry then and went away, but soon they came back with some other men and took Stephen and brought him before the great men. Here these quarreling men told wrong stories about him. But Stephen, true and brave, was not afraid of them, or even angry, and as the white-haired men gazed at him, they whispered one to another: "His face is like the face of an angel." When it came his turn to speak, he told them wise things, but these wise things made them all so angry that they ground their teeth and looked at him with flashing eyes. But he did not stop. Presently he looked deep into their angry eyes and told them that they were wicked men because they had tried to harm people like Peter and John who went about doing good.

When they heard this, they started up full of anger and, putting their fingers in their ears, they cried: "Stop him, stop him!" And they ran upon him and dragged him from the great house, through the streets, and out of the city. There they stoned him.

But still Stephen was not angry with them. Though the stones they threw hurt him, and the looks of the men were fierce and cruel, he kneeled down, and lifting his beautiful face so that all could hear him, he called to the Father in heaven and asked him to forgive these wicked men. Then they all stopped throwing stones, for Stephen lay down upon the ground as though he were asleep. The Father in heaven had taken him to the beautiful home of which Jesus had told his friends

3. TRANSITION.

What was the name of the kind, strong man who helped people? What happened one day as he was talking in a church? Where did they take him? What did he tell these men? What did they do to him? Was Stephen angry with them? What did he ask the Father in heaven to do?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Give each child a piece of dark brown paper about four by six inches. Next give out small copies of the picture of Stephen. Hand around small brushes dipped in paste and allow the children to paste the back of the pictures and mount them upon the brown paper.

Picture

Stephen.

Memory Gem

“Help us to do the things we should,
To be to others kind and good;
In all we do, in work or play,
To grow more loving ev’ry day.”

Lesson 49

**Jesus Forgiving Peter (John 18 : 15-18, 25-27;
21 : 15-17).**

Golden Text : Forgiving each other (Eph. 4 : 32).

Result Sought :

A spirit of patient forgiveness.

Suggestions to Teachers :

The six-year-old child is so impressionable that the very greatest care must be taken in picturing to him anything of an evil nature.

The unfortunate failings of Peter must be carefully portrayed. It will be better not to picture the lie of Peter in detail, even though this be followed by a warning against the danger of lying and the story of Jesus' forgiveness. We must remember that it is the picture, not the warning that remains in the child's mind. Therefore, in the story to-day we must aim to make the evil as abstract and the mercy and forgiveness of Jesus as concrete as possible.

Lesson Taught :**1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.**

As we have had several lessons about Peter, we may prepare for the lesson story by a brief review of these. If in this review the incidents which show Peter's friendship for Jesus, and Jesus' love for Peter can be brought out, it will make the mind of the child more ready for the story.

2. LESSON STORY.

Early one morning, when the sunbeams were coming from the sky to make the world bright, some

of Peter's friends found him lying upon the grass under the trees in a garden. His face was covered up with his dark cloak and he was weeping. His friends could not think what made him so unhappy. One of them said gently: "What is thy sorrow, Peter?" But Peter did not want to tell them. When they saw that he wished to be alone they went away.

Peter did not wish his friends to know what made him sorrowful, for he had done something wrong. He had said something to make Jesus, his best friend, unhappy. Now he was sorry; it was no wonder that the hot tears came into his eyes. All that day and for many days afterwards Peter was unhappy and his eyes were sad. He could not forget the wrong he had done to his best friend.

At last one night he and John and some other friends went out fishing. They fished until the morning light began to break, but they caught no fish in the nets. They were tired and discouraged and were thinking about going ashore, when they heard some one calling to them from the beach, telling them to throw their net out from the other side of the ship. They did this and before long the net was full, so full that they could not lift it up. John looked back towards the beach and said to Peter: "It was Jesus who called to us from the shore." Peter started at his words, and his eyes grew sadder than ever as he remembered how unhappy he had made Jesus. He thought: "I will go to him. I will show him how sorry I am and see if he has forgiven me." So he fastened his cloak about him and jumping into the water, swam ashore. As he

drew near Jesus looked at him lovingly and smiled. Then Peter's heart was filled with joy, for he saw that Jesus was not angry with him. The others soon came up in the boat and they counted their fish and had breakfast.

After breakfast Jesus spoke to Peter, calling him by his other name. "Simon," he said, "dost thou love me?" Peter answered with all his heart: "Yea, Lord, thou knowest that I love thee," and he was happy for he knew that Jesus had quite forgiven him.

3. TRANSITION.

Where did some friends find Peter one morning? Why was he weeping? Why did he jump out of the boat and swim ashore? How did Jesus make him happy again?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Let the children draw their ideas of this story.

Picture

Christ's Charge to St. Peter, by Raphael.

Blackboard



LOVE

Golden Text for Lessons 50 to 52 : Let us love one another, for love is of God (1 John 4 : 7).

Lesson 50

Jonathan's Love for David (1 Sam. 18 : 1-4 ; 20 : 1-42).

Result Sought :

A loving spirit.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

How many of you have some little friends ? Tell me about them.

2. LESSON STORY.

Our story to-day is about two friends, a prince and a shepherd boy. I think you have heard of them before. The prince was the king's son and the shepherd boy was the curly-haired David who killed the great giant Goliath.

After David had killed the great giant he was taken to the king's tent. There he saw a tall young man leaning on a spear, near the king's seat. This was Jonathan, the prince. He looked at David with sparkling eyes, for he liked people who were brave and strong, and when he heard the king asking David to come and live with them he was glad.

As each day went by and he saw more of the shepherd boy he grew to love him dearly. David grew to love Prince Jonathan just as much, and one day they promised each other to be friends always. Then Jonathan wanted to show David that he loved him, so he took off his own fine cloak and put it upon David. He gave him his belt, too, and his bow and shining sword, until the shepherd boy, too, looked like a prince. After that David and Jonathan went together to fight the king's enemies. But often, when they had time, they played games and sang sweet songs to the music of the harp.

One day the king became angry with David. This made Jonathan very sad, and he begged the king not to harm his friend. King Saul promised that he would not, but soon he was as angry as ever. At last David said to Jonathan : "What have I done that the king, thy father, is still angry with me? To-morrow he will give a great feast and I should go to it, but I am afraid that he will harm me." So David went and hid himself in the fields and Jonathan had to go to the king's feast without him. In the middle of the feast King Saul, who had been wondering why David's place was empty, asked Jonathan where he was. Jonathan said that he had gone away. Then the king was exceedingly angry with David and also with Jonathan the prince, and he cried loudly : "Send now and fetch David unto me." Jonathan now knew that the king really meant to harm David. He stood up and asked his father : "Why dost thou wish to harm David? What evil hath he done?" The king was too angry to answer,

but he took his spear and drove Prince Jonathan from the feast.

The next morning Jonathan took his bow and went out into the field to try and find David. A little boy in a white tunic went with him to carry his arrows. Jonathan shot his arrows here and there and the little boy ran after them and brought them back. After a while he sent the boy away. Then David, who had heard them talking, arose from the tall grass where he had been hiding. Jonathan ran to meet him and they threw their arms around one another. Then Jonathan told David that the king was still angry, and he would have to go far away. So they kissed one another and then David hurried away across the field. Jonathan went back to the palace without his friend, but he was happy just to know that he was safe.

3. TRANSITION.

Who became David's best friend when he went to live with the king? What did Jonathan give David to show how much he loved him? When the king was angry with David how did Jonathan help him?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Sand-trays. With the children's help, picture out on the sand-tray the last part of the lesson story. Make the field and put in it some grass or stones behind which David can hide, and represent the king's dwelling in the distance. Bring Jonathan and the lad to the field, and afterwards portray the meeting between Jonathan and David.

Picture

David and Jonathan, by Doré.

Memory Gem

“ Cherries ripe and cherries red !
‘ Hold your apron,’ Charlie said ;
And his hat he filled up, too,
‘ For,’ said loving little Lou,
‘ We’ll take some to Annie May,
She’s not very well to-day.’ ”

Lesson 51

**Mary’s Love for Jesus (John 12 : 1-8 ; Mark
14 : 3-9).**

Golden Text : Let us love one another, for love is of
God (1 John 4 : 7).

Result Sought :

A loving spirit.

Lesson Taught :

1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.

How many of you have a kitty ? Does she love you ? How do you know she does ? Did you ever see a dog tell some one how much it loved him ? How did it tell him ?

2. LESSON STORY.

Our story to-day tells us how a young woman named Mary showed Jesus how much she loved him.

Mary lived in a little village in the country with her sister Martha and her brother Lazarus. Jesus was their friend. They all loved him dearly, and he, as often as he could, walked out from the big city to rest and be happy in their home, or with other friends in the village where they lived.

One evening soon after the golden sun had gone below the hills Jesus and some of his friends came to this place. They had come a long journey and were tired and dusty. Then some of those who loved him got ready a supper for him, and Mary and Martha and Lazarus were there.

When the time came and all the guests were gathered, Jesus sat at the table close beside Lazarus. Martha waited upon them, but Mary had something else to do. She had been wondering ever since Jesus came what special thing she could do to show him that she loved him. At last she had thought of something. She had a white box of beautiful perfume; it was very precious, for it had cost a great deal of money. "I will give him that," she thought; "nothing is too good for Jesus." So while Martha was passing the figs and cake and cool drinks, Mary slipped away and got her white box of perfume. Then she came back and knelt beside Jesus. She broke the seal of the white box and poured the perfume over his feet until the whole house was full of the beautiful odor of it. Then she wiped the feet with the thick, dark hair that fell over her shoulders. As she did this, Jesus smiled lovingly into her eyes and thanked her before all the people. Then Mary was happy, for she knew Jesus understood how much she loved him.

3. TRANSITION.

Whom did Jesus often go to visit? What did they make for him one time when he came to see them? How did Mary show her love for him at the supper?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Have ready traced on pieces of dark brown paper with white ink or white paint simple outline pictures of the alabaster box shown in the blackboard cut. Give these out to the children with brushes dipped in white paint and let them fill in the outlines. They might take these home with them or leave them behind to adorn the walls of the class room.

Picture

Feast at House of Simon, by Veronese.

Blackboard



Lesson 52

Jesus' Love for His Friends (John 11 : 1-44).

Golden Text: Let us love one another, for love is of God (1 John 4 : 7).

Result Sought :

A loving spirit.

Lesson Taught :**1. PREPARATION FOR LESSON STORY.**

Prepare for to-day's story by a brief review of last Sunday's lesson.

2. LESSON STORY.

One time Jesus went away on a long journey. His friends, Mary and Martha and Lazarus, who lived in the pretty cottage in the country, missed his visits to their home. One day the brother Lazarus became ill, and then they missed Jesus more than ever, for they knew that if he were only with them, he could cure Lazarus.

As the days went by and the young man grew no better, Mary said to her sister : " Let us send and tell the Master that our brother is ill. When he knows that he will come and make him well." So they sent. " Lord, he whom thou lovest is ill," was what the message said. Jesus was sorry to hear that the people he loved so dearly were in trouble. But he knew that he could help them. So he and his friends started back to the home of Lazarus. It was a long way that they had to go, far across the river and over the hills, and it took them a long time. When at last they came near the cottage, they heard sad sounds of weeping. Jesus' friends whispered one to another : " Alas ! they weep because Lazarus is dead." As they drew nearer Martha, dressed in a black robe, came out to meet Jesus. She looked at him with sad eyes and said : " Lord, if thou hadst

been here, my brother had not died." But Jesus comforted her, saying: "Thy brother shall live again." Then Martha went into the house and brought Mary and some friends who were there. Mary ran to Jesus and fell at his feet weeping. As he lifted her up, the others could see that he, too, was weeping, so grieved was he to see the friends he loved so troubled. He asked them to take him to the grave of Lazarus. When they came to it, Jesus told some men to take away the big stone that covered it over. Then he called in a loud voice: "Lazarus, come forth," and the brother so dear to them all came back to life.

Now there was great gladness and rejoicing ; the faces were smiling and bright once more. They went back to the cottage thanking their kind friend Jesus for helping them. And no one was more glad than Jesus himself, for he loved them.

3. TRANSITION.

What message did Martha and Mary send to Jesus? When Jesus came to their home, what did he find? How did he feel for them? How did he help them?

4. EXPRESSION OF LESSON STORY.

Give the children blocks and have them build under your direction a simple little cottage, the home of Mary and Martha and Lazarus.

Picture

At the Home of Mary and Martha.

OCT 21 1904

BS
605

I

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 021 212 989 6